

Thursday May 2 1996

Ine Guardiai

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Chelsea's battle to keep Hoddle

Saint Glenn for England

Sport pages 14 and 16



Derek Malcolm on a new cult movie hit

Things to do... with Andy Garcia

Screen G2 pages 8/9



Java: the language of the future

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Rifkind in new feud as ministers are braced for humiliation at the polls

Major: 'I won't buckle'

Leadership rivals line up to back PM

Michael White Political Editor

terday gave the strongest indica-tion yet that he will not buckle under pressure to embrace the Eurosceptic agenda, or resign the Tory leadership, if today's local elections bring the expected humiliation for his party.

As potential challengers

John Redwood denied any plots or threats, the Prime Minister declared defi-"I am a Conservative because I believe in Conserva-tism and I take a middle of the road view on European matters." He said he would "not be pushed from one edge to another edge of the debate".

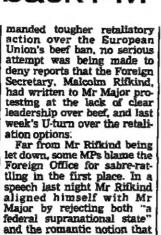
Mr Major's determination was echoed by possible suc-cessors like Michael Heseltine, Kenneth Clarke, Ian Lang and Michael Portillo, as they tried to turn attention to what the Prime Minister called Labour's "hidden

agenda of higher taxes". Last year's challenger, Mr Redwood, even issued a state-ment saying the leadership issue had been settled then.

The "bloodless coup" sce-nario being touted by a few dissidents would see Mr down and Mr Heseltine be-coming Interim leader unoplose the general election, leav-ing for later the left-right

fight for control of the party. Such a painless resolution of the Tories' dire position in the opinion polls is all but in conceivable. But ministerial frustration at what lovalists see as a media-driven distrac tion on the eve of today's local elections was not helped by feuding over the beef crisis.

While backbenchers demanded tougher retaliator Austin



Britain could quit the EU. Mr Major expressed what is the Cabinet majority's view in a lunch-time speech to regional newspaper editors. "Our national interest he said, warning against "simplistic headlines" or neg-

ative reporting when complex issues needed to be properly explained. "As Prime Minister, I must speak for the national interest as I see it — and I will — whatever noises off may be."

Mr Major protested that the worst reporting was that which said there was little difference between the parties. "It is true Labour try to dissidents would see Mr ape Tory sentiments, because Major gracefully stepping they know that's what apdown and Mr Heseltine be peals to the heart of the nation. But the policy differ-

Mr Lang, the Trade Secre-tary, protested at what he called "a whirlwind of speculation and fantasy" about a leadership "whipped up by the media". More candid colleagues admit that Tory MPs must take much of the blame.

To add to the mood of disarray in their ranks, the Scot tish Secretary, Michael For-syth, rejected EU requests to put Europe Day posters into Scotland's schools, while Peter Thurnham, the MP who recently resigned the Tory whip, urged voters to back the Liberal Democrats today if they want to guarantee European referendum and

electoral reform. The maverick MP does no plan to join the party himself, he wrote in his local Bolton paper. But he urged Sir lames Goldsmith not to spend £20 million campaigning for a referendum, but to organise a nationwide postal ballot at half the cost

Clarke sees off sception page 4; Leader commer



'Our interests require as to be in Europe,' John Major told regional newspaper editors yesterday ристосвари сванам тогька

Standing by their man — loyalty pledges for Prime Minister

'I have no doubt that John Major will lead the Conservative Party at the election or that he will win it. I have spoken (to journalists) with no inflection or hesitation or doubt. I didn't look sheepish. I looked you

in the eye." Michael Heseltine, Deputy Prime Minister

"Speculation about the leadership is completely misplaced. This matter was settled comprehensively last year."

Michael Portillo, Defence Secretary

"The leadership was decided last summer. We are going to go on as a united party and we are going to fight the election on our record on the real issues."

Ian Lang, Trade Secretary

"As far as I am concerned the Conservative Party settled the issue of the leadership last summer. I have made it very clear I have no intention of challenging John Major

as Prime Minister and leader." John Redwood, failed leadership candidate

Schoolgirls accused of killing after funfair fight

Owen Bowcott

WO teenage girls ap-peared in Kettering youth court yesterday charged with the manslaughter of Louise Allen, aged 13, who died after trying to stop a fight on Mon-

The two schoolgirls, aged 12 and 13, from Corby, in North-amptonshire, were remanded into secure local anthority care. The girls, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, each spoke only once to con-firm they understood what

was happening.
Both sat with their parents and were dressed in sweat-shirts, tracksuit bottoms and

Louise was found unconscious on a grass verge near a funfair in Corby, following a fight among teenagers. A policeman and a passerby at-tempted to give her first aid and she was rushed to Ketter-ing general hospital. A post-mortem examination

revealed she suffered severe head and upper body injuries. Her parents, John and Ellen Allen, were at her bedside throughout Tuesday until they gave doctors permission for the life support system to be turned off. The inquest into her death is due to open

Detectives trying to estab-lish exactly what happened on the evening of the attack were yesterday still making e to nouse inquiries a interviewing witnesses

Schoolfriends, neighbours and teachers praised Louise's high spirits and readiness to help others. Squatting on their rucksacks or snuffling back their tears. Louise's friends gathered vesterday lunchtime on the spot where

she was attacked.

Huddled in a circle around
the small mound of flowers
and teddy bears left by wellwishers, they popped bubble

Prague Writers'

Festival 1996

The Viola Theatre,

May 9-11

This year the Prague Writers' Festival, directed by Michael



Louise Allen, 13, who died after trying to stop a fight

gum or toyed with footballs until they fell silent. "Louise would never do

anything wrong to anyone," said Caroline Moorhouse, aged 15, who had laid a bunch of flowers on the growing pile. "I used to go to discos with her on Thursdays. She was always ready to help friends. This time she got caught in a fight."

Though most pupils from Our Lady and Pope John secondary school, which Louise attended, expressed shock at her death, others were less surprised.

"There are lots of fights around here," one boy said.
"But it's normally boys who fight." Many children stayed away from classes yesterday which has 572 pupils.

Denise Boyle stood at the gates in tears."Louise was brilliant. She was great at netball. I used to walk home with her. I'm two years above her but I didn't want to go to school today. I knew she was hurt but I thought she would

get better."
The school's headmaster, Jim Platt, aged 54, said: "The pupils and staff are devas turn to page 3, column 1

Pets win £32.5m prize for insurance firm's founders

Tony May

WHEN Patsy Bloom's pet dog, Jamie, fell sick in 1976 she could not find an insurance company willing to help with the vet's bills so she borrowed £250 and set up her own insurance plan. Yesterday she and part-ner David Simpson, who also put up £250, sold the

Pet Plan company to Corn-hill Insurance for £32.5 They will each receive £16 million, a theoretical return on their investment of 6.4 million per cent.

named as Business Woman of the Year in 1993, but ironically in 1976 she felt that she had to find a man when she was looking for a partner in order to please the insurance industry.

"You could not get anywhere in the insurance in-dustry as a woman then. It would be churlish to say it is still the same today although insurance compa-nies are not the most for-ward thinking in terms of women's interests," she

When she tried to interest insurance companies in the idea some people just So, she said: "I rushed Ms Bloom, aged 55, was

round to my animal-mad friends and said would you buy pet insurance for a tenand they did."

In the first year Pet Plan insured 1,300 animals but now has 400,000 policy-holders on its books who pay a total of £40 million a year in premiums. The partners founded not just a company but a new branch of the insurance industry. "I know that people will

look at us and see we have ended up with heaps of money but it has involved hours of sheer struggle. I have no regrets but I have no doubt I married the

"People have asked me

'How do you feel about the loss of the baby?' But I say it's like chucking out an unruly teenager," said Ms Bloom-

She said they had decided to sell the company after they realised it needed more resources than a pri-vate company could raise. They had ruled out floating Pet Plan on the stock market

Instead, Cornhill Insurance will provide the underwriting backing for Pet Plan's range of insurance policies covering pets and horses, and Ms Bloom and Mr Simpson are staying on. Mr Simpson will become

chief executive while Ms Bloom will remain a director with particular responsibility for marketing and

The firm's staff of 200 ome of whom in the past worked without pay to keep the business growing — will stay in Brentford, west as employees of

But Ms Bloom would not advise others to follow her example today. "Go for venture capital, that's my vious advice

It was not available then and it is a different ball game now. You could not start up a company like that with private money."



Patsy Bloom, who borrowed

Inside

Britain Anti-arms trade: protesters forced the collapse of British Aerospace's annual general meeting amid noisy scenes.

World News Council of Europe members are alarmed at the dramatic increase in the use of capital punishment

by the Russians.

The Guardian Wise Women predict that: above inflation : wage rises will push up interest rates and boost the

housing market.

Finance

Sport

Ronnie O'Sullivan. fined earlier in the week, kept alive his world snooker chances with a 13-12 win over John Higgins.



Obituaries 10 Crossword 15 Weather 16 Radio 16; TV 16

ment and Letters 8



March, will once again showcase a selection of fine authors from around the world. Under the festival's theme of "Ancient Evenings", writers including R.S. Thomas from Wales, Sylva Fischerova of the Czech Republic, and Jim Barnes from the USA will be

presenting their work at the festival. There visitors can enjoy a rare opportunity to listen to, and meet, these renowned international authors.

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Heavyweights not right a pretty picture



Simon Hoggart

ORY Central Office these days looks like a modern art gallery. In the hall there's the famous portrait of John Major, the one where he's standing in front of a bookcase wearing wrinkled slacks — the Daks of Dorian Grey. Then to one side are two pyramids of baked bean cans. one with red labels marked "Labour Has Beans", the other in yellow marked "Liberal Half-Baked Beans". Bizarrely, these cans con-

tain real beans. The display should be entitled "Party Political Broadcast by Andy Warhol". If Teresa Gorman were to be sliced down the middle, sus-pended in formaldehyde and labelled "European Split 1996" the whole room could be transferred straight to the Serpentine Gallery.

The next room was filled with cabinet heavyweights. There was Brian Mawhinney, Ken Clarke, Michael Heseltine and the nice, diffident local government minister David Curry, whom nobody has heard of, and who looked like pilot fish invited to join the sharks for tea.

Some hooligan (who sounded suspiciously like my colleague Michael White) demanded: "Why are there no rightwingers? Why is this a leftwing press conference?"

Messrs Clarke and Heseltine grinned with wolfish ples sure. They were asked about beef. Michael Portillo had said that morning that the British people were "disgusted" by what Brussels had done. Both looked vague, They have probably heard of Mr

Portillo, in the same way the rest of us have. But cabinet ministers see very little of each other, except at Cabinet. To people like Mr Clarke and Mr Heseltine, he is the equivalent of that bloke whose name you can't quite remember but usually turns up at the weekly

Didn't the beef ban prove hat Europe was against us? Mr Heseltine said that the first country to ban British beef was the United States, seven years ago. Mr Clarke chipped in. Canada'had banned it: Australia, Singapore, New Zealand and Hong Kong as well.

The implication was that Europe had been far kinder to our beef than our own former colonies. Indeed, he seemed to be saying, they had been positively helpful. "The discussions we are having with the furnments are to find a way of Europeans are to find a way of lifting the ban on good British beef. Those who are trying to turn the ban into the latest hysterical Europhile and Eurosceptic row are missing the point," the Chancellor

Yes, of course, and no doubt Princess Diana will be on hand to watch the first mass

Finally — after wasting pre-cious seconds discussing the ostensible topic of the press conference, today's council elections — we reached the only interesting subject. Was
Mr Heselitine hoping to seize
Mr Major's job?
Hezza assumed his plotting
scowl. "The record is totally

straight. But journalists don't listen to answers the first time, or the second time, or the 335th time. They examine every full stop, every comma,

every blink.
"I have no doubt that John Major will lead the Conservative Party in the next election, or that he will win it, and I and my colleagues will be there to help him."

This is what we in the old deconstructionist trade call

"cognitive dissonance". Since it is inconceivable that Mr Heseltine has "no doubt" that Mr Major will win the next election, can we attach any significance to his view that Mr Major will be the leader of his party at the time?

"I am not being sheepish."
he continued, "I am looking at
you straight in the eye." I danced up to see his eyes flickering suspiciously around the room.

To settle it all, I have fed these remarks into the powerful Cray mega-computer at the Ecole Jacques Derrida in Paris, and expect a solution to what Mr Heseltine really means some time before the

First night

Literary genius as silly old buffer

Toistoy

THE American dramatist, James Goldman, specialises in cutting marital feuds down to size. In The Lion in Winter, he turned the quarrel between Henry II and Elea-nor of Aquitaine into bitchy Broadway comedy. Now, in the dismal Tolstoy, he takes the lacerating feud between the great novelist and his wife. Sonya, and makes it seem like an episode from a

Russian soap. The year is 1910. The setting is Yasnaya Polyana, the family estate. Toistoy and Sonya are at loggerheads. She is desperate to save him from the Tolstoyan cultists and in particular from his devoted acolyte, Vladimir Chertkov. When Chertkov persuades Tolstoy to part with the dia-ries that he and Sonya have kept obsessively, she responds

with an attempted drowning. Finally Tolstoy leaves home and ends up in a railway junction hut at Astapovo, where, denying his demented wife access, he dies in agony. It is one of the most tragic

ends to an extraordinary life, the story of a modern Lear. But this is to reckon without Mr Goldman, who reduces it all to bathos. It is impossible, for a start, to believe that the genial old buffer calling himself Tolstoy bears any relation to the despotic genius who emerges from the biographies. Henri Troyat wrote that Tolstoy enjoyed the destiny not of one man but 10 or 20. Here he seems a manipulated weakling who even twinkles

Michael Billington | merrily when one of his daughters quotes the Shake-speare he so detested.

I suspect Goldman's aim is to do justice to Sonya, who devoted herself to Tolstoy dur-ing his great periods of cre-ativity. But there is no mention of the fact that she hated sex and used it only as a

means of gaining power.
And, although she was a compulsive journal keeper. when she utters lines like "Can I save Leo from him-self." the only diarist of whom

she reminds one is Mrs Dale. Worse still are the attempts to add a little compensatory theatrical colour. At one point there is an unpersuasive flash-back to happier times when the Toistoys dance to a waitz he wrote when young. Even more risible is the moment when the dying Tolstoy has a vision of a gypsy dancer whose demure hoofing suggests she has scarcely ventured further east than

Jack Hofsiss's production, with its unexpected glimpses the wings, is barely competent. F. Murray Abraham is given little chance to show Tolstoy's contradictions or to st that he died, in Isaiah Berlin's words, "oppressed by his sense of perpetual moral error". And although Gemma Jones deploys her formidable technique to convey Sonya's mixture of dementia and devotion, she does not have the

lines to work with.
Mr Goldman once wrote the book to Sondheim's Follies, a work that says infinitely more about bad marriages than anything in this piffling bio-play. This review appeared in later editions yesterday.

Drugs and crime study wins £6m to treat addicts

Alan Travis

AGROUP of 1,100 drug addicts committed more than 70,000 crimes between them, costing their victims about £34 million over a two year period, according to research published vesterday.

The study, by a Department of Health task force, acknowledged that drug treatment | Wetherby, LS23 7LN, Free.

programmes actually work in cutting crime. It has led to a £6 million boost for such services, including the develop-ment of heroin-substitute methadone programmes being announced by the Health Minister. John Bowis.

The Task Force to Review Services for Drug Misusers, Dept of Health, PO Box 410.

Left, and centre, the 'it's my party' theme has been given a new lease of life

Michael White and Seumas Milne hunt for clues



Miners' leader Arthur Scargill at the formal launch yesterday of the Socialist Labour Party

Scargill makes his pitch

plans for an independent think tank, Arthur Scargill opened a new phase in the guerrilla war which small parties are threatening to wage against the Labour-Conservative hegemony at the coming general election. When the miners' leader's

Socialist Labour Party (SLP) was finally given its formal May Day launch, he hinted that he would stand against Alan Howarth at the next election if Labour imposes the Tory defector on a constit-uency such as the Yorkshire seat of Wentworth.

Given the unpopularity of the Tories under John Major and unease on the left about Tony Blair's leadership, the surprise is that David v. Goliath politics has taken so long to re-emerge after Margaret tary candidates as it could afford, not a problem facing Sir James, who has pledged £20 on British politics was replaced by pragmatic muddle.

The prolonged political crisis of the 1970s led to the rise of Scots and Welsh nationalist parties, a surge of Trotskyite activism in and beyond Labour's ranks, and — briefly in the 1974 elections — a boost for the fascist National Front. Little was heard from Tory MPs like Douglas Hurd and Chris Patten about the need for electoral reform and FR once Mrs Thatcher was firmly in charge. And the

S Mohammed al merger with the Liberals. But Fayed, owner of in the 1990s electoral reform Harrods, entered talk has returned on both left the political fray and right, with disaffected yesterday with MPs and activists predicting splits and realignment in both major parties after the next election.

Mr Scargill has long been a supporter of PR as a vital element and is anti-European. like Sir James Goldsmith, from whom he does not ex-pect financial support.

Just as the Goldsmith-funded Referendum Party is sizing up prominent Tory MPs such as Kenneth Clarke and David Mellor to take on, members of Mr Scargill's SLP have already decided to chal-lenge Tony Blair in his Sedge-field constituency and the Shadow Employment Secre-tary, Michael Meacher, in Oldham West.

Mr Scargill announced yes terday that the party planned to field as many parliamen-tary candidates as it could af million from family trusts to fìght for a "real" referendum

Mr al Fayed — who, like Sir James, made his first fortune in the grocery trade — is similarly free of immediate financial constraints if he decides to go down the same path. But colleagues stated categorically yesterday that the Egyptian-born entrepreneur is not, contrary to reports, planning to start a formal political party as such, even though he is passionately interested in greatest breakaway of all, the democratic politics and ex-Labour SDP, ended in reform of British instititions.

Instead he may emulate another philanthropic tradition in the grocery trade, that of the Sainsbury family, whose good causes have long included discreet help for politi-cal think tanks. Mr al Fayed is looking for bright young people, "without axes to grind", to run an independent institute to examine options

for constitutional reform. He will provide the "seed corn." Options range from a slimmed-down monarchy and reformed House of Lords to a Bill of Rights and Freedom of Information Act.

Mr Scargill is also an outsider with a grievance. The SLP was being founded, the National Union of Mineworkers president said yesterday, because there were now "no fundamental differ-ences between the Conservative Party, New Labour and the Liberal Democrats".

The new party, whose can-didate Brenda Nixon won 5.4 per cent of the vote in the Hemsworth byelection in Feb ruary, has been dismissed by both the Labour leadership and leftwing MPs like Ken Livingstone as irrelevant.

Mr Scargill was flanked at the launch by two London Labour councillors who have defected to Socialist Labour. Pat Sikorski of the Rail Mari time and Transport union ex ecutive, and Imran Khan, so licitor for the family of the racist murder victim. Between 400 and 500 SLP

Stephen Lawrence. members are expected to attend the new party's founding congress on Saturday.

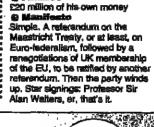
Play fantasy politics



viembers' subscriptions and donations

Manifesto

employment, 4-day week, ban on retirement at 55: restoration of



Sir James Goldsmith

Referendum Party

How to start your own political party

The description of a candidate on a ballot paper is restricted to 6 words which may include the name of a political party. However as there is no official recognition or definition of what constitutes a political party here is the simple guide to setting one up.

1 a) Make a fortune.

Mohamed al-Fay

c) Or split an existing party 2 Promise to break the mould of 3 Attempt to run candidates in as many constituencies as possible.

4 Fail to make a breakthrough.

British politics by res to the system.

Violence calls at clergy doorstep

James Meikle Community Affairs Editor

HE Lord is my shep-herd, says Psalm 23, but Church of England vic-ars want better protection such as door chains, burglar alarms and security lights. Clergy and their families ire being threatened, abused and burgled by doorstep visitors after money, drink or food, a report on the mount-ing menace at the vicarage

Sometimes violent or frightening callers have replaced the old "gentlemen of the road" in search of a cup of tea, says Knocking on Heaven's Door, by Christian Action and Response in Society (Caris), for the London

Its authors want a national debate on how the Church provides practical and spiri-tual belp for those at the margins of society. Some submissions to their

inquiry said clergy should make no attempt to get in-volved with callers to their homes beyond providing information on where they could get help. Others sug-gested food vouchers or pro-

bile phones or dogs among se-curity measures, although it homes and offering training is already diocescan policy in | in coping with difficult London for all vicars' front callers.

chains, security locks and porch lights.

John Hall, a north London vicar and chairman of the committee responsible for the report, was abused and threatened by a young man recently out of prison and demanding money. The visitor was offered food instead; he threw it at the vicarage and left. The experience so disturbed his family that one child did not want to leave the house alone for a week. "In the last couple of years

have had about 50 callers. mostly men, and only three traditional "gentlemen of the road". They are young people with all kinds of problems, four of them have been ag-gressive or violent. Four were very definitely mentally ill, others in real need of medical help, and one was suicidal."

Mr Hall, a former probation officer, said: "One knows the Church is seen as a place of help and sanctuary by people in need but the problems at the door today are often more intractable, difficult and potentially dangerous than they were before.

Chris Brice, director of Requests to come inside the home or for money should usually be refused. Clergy should consider having mobile phones or description. Caris, said clergy wanted to

Beijing mandarins fear Hong Kong chaos after handover

Andrew Higgins in Hong Kong

ASECRET Chinese report on the future of Hong Kong has warned the Communist Party to brace for riots, a slump in foreign investment and other perils when Britain pulls out next year, a Hong Kong magazine reported

An independent Chinese-language monthly, Cheng Ming, quoted what it said was a leaked Chinese document as "democracy card" to prolong drop of between 20 and 80 per

China's Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office. Its authenticity could not be con-firmed, though its logic matches that of conspiracy theories aired by Beijing.

It said "anti-Chinese and anti-Communist forces" in the United States and Taiwan could stir up trouble after 1997 to undermine China's stability. "Violent and armed turmoil leading to the paralyleaked Chinese document as sis of Hong Kong society saying Britain would play the could occur." It predicted a

eignty, the shadow foreign secretary, Robin Cook, ended a visit to the colony with a pledge to help non-Chinese ethnic minorities to secure the right of abode in Britain. He said the Labour Party

would press the Government to make an "unconditional" 5,000 people who will be effec-tively stateless after 1997. But he offered scant solace for the bulk of Hong Kong's 6.4 mil-

colonial influence after 1997. cent in foreign investment. Chinese. His visit coincided

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The internal report was Amid fading hopes for a smoo Hong Kong's: chief secretary, Anson Chan, confirmed yesterday that the colony had rejected Chinese demands for help in replacing a legislature clarific transfer of the secretary chief.

elected under Governor Chris Patten's reforms with a body picked by Beijing A Chinese request for a meeting room offer of sanctuary to the 3,000 and "other necessary co-oper ation" for a provisional legis-lature was refused.

"Such a body is neither nec essary nor desirable," said Mrs Chan, who visited Beijlion people, rejecting more Mrs Chan, who visite British passports for ethnic ing over the weekend.



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Tin brief



A scene from the successful recent Hollywood film of Little Women

Big money rides on unknown novel by Little Women author

Ian Katz and Sarah Boseley on the multi-million dollar expectations aroused by a discovery in a Harvard library

ODD Shuster has already pencilled in Hugh Grant for the male lead. 'Lord Percy's role has him written all over it. It's the kind of fable Hollywood loves.'

Mr Shuster and his partner, Lane Zachary, may just be the happiest agents in America. A literary bonanza has fallen into their laps: the undiscovered manuscript of Louisa May Alcott's first novel.

Entitled The Inheritance, the hand-written manuscript lay unread in a Harvard University library for decades before it was discovered by two Alcott scholars in 1988.

The academics, Joel Myerson of the University of South Carolina and Daniel Shealy of the University of North Carolina, immediately recognised the text as a previously un-known Alcott novel but filed it away for seven years while they completed other work.

Only last autumn, when the two men began transcribing the author's famously illegi-ble handwriting, did they recrassing piece of juvenilia where you say 'Yes she wrote this, but fortunately she got

Mr Shuster and Ms Zachary say their phones have been ringing off the book with offers from publishers and

Edith's tale

HE inheritance tells of Edith, a beautiful but penniless Italian orphan who virtuously accepts blame for a crime she did not commit and is finally rewarded with a fortune and the love of a nobleman. It is set largely in an English castle, although Alcott visited Britain only briefly. She lived in Con-

she died, aged 56, "a literary spinster, with a pen for a spouse," as her most famous creation and alter ego, Jo March, described herself.

ognise its potential appeal. "It the nineteenth century was very good," says Professor Myerson. "Not an embar-stock has soared since the successful screen adaptation of her best-known work, Lit-

In 1994, Ms Zachary sold the rights to another previously unpublished Alcott manuscript, A Long Fatal Love Chase, to Random House for \$1.5 million, Mr Shuster predicts "a multiple million dol-lar dollar deal" for film and publication rights to The

Inheritance.
Alcott (1832-1888) was a pro-lific writer who turned out over 200 Gothic melodramas because they sold well, and not for any grand moral purpose or satisfaction in the writing.
She had a family to support
— her philosopher father,

mother and three sisters — whose real-life story Little Women largely tells. The book that made her famous she wrote to commission and

Mr Galloway said BAe, the

to say unsavoury — basket of Saudi Arabia".

Mr Evans rebutted claims that he had put pressure on the Government to deport Dr al-Mas'ari to protect lucrative



Until now, Alcott's biographers believed that Moods, written in 1864, was her first novel. But Professor Myerson and Professor Shealy found a note with The Inheritance explaining that she wrote it in 1849 and that it was her first

work of fiction.
The book was not mentioned in any of Alcott's journals or letters and had reluctantly.

The newly discovered logued when the author's manuscript, which runs to heirs deposited her writings

150 typewritten pages, has a with Harvard's Houghton Liplot that is more typical of the brary in the 1960s. The two bulk of her work. brary in the 1960s. The two academics stumbled over it in the summer of 1988 as they trawled through Alcott's papers while working on an anthology of her letters and journals.

They decided to photocopy the manuscript, and the text remained in a file in Profes-sor Myerson's office at the University of South Carolina in Columbia until they began the painstaking work of transcribing it last autumn. At the time they found the

. UIC'S BIGGEST RANGE

GREAT VALUE FOR MONEY

following, largely among teenage girls, and they imag-ined the novel would only be taken up by an academic pub-lisher. But since the success

Women, with Susan Saran-don and Wynona Ryder, Al-cott's popularity has soared. Alcott would have been 18 when she wrote The Inheritance. Like much of her early work, it was riddled with punctuation and spelling

of the film version of Little

have written it merely to entertain her sisters.

Professor Myerson and Pro-fessor Shealy have agreed to share any royalties from The Inheritance with Alcott's beir, John Pratt. Mr Shuster anticipates a fierce contest when he and Ms Zachary begin offering it in Hollywood this week.

"It's accessibly written, with rich dialogue, and the scenes are set so succinctly that they are easy to adapt." errors. Mr Shuster, who de-scribes it as "romantic with a he adds. "The hero has a dramanuscript, Alcoit enjoyed a capital R", believes she may matic riding accident."

Clarke sees off sceptic attack

Larry Elliott Economics Edito

ENNETH Clarke, the Chancellor, last night defiantly unfurled the anner for the pro-Europeans in the Conservative Party with a warning that the Eurosceptics were leading Britain towards isolationism.

Giving evidence to the Commons Treasury commit-tee, Mr Clarke mounted a vig-orous defence of the principle of a single currency, arguing that monetary union was not a political issue and should be judged on its economic

merits.
The Chancellor made clear his anger at rising anti-European sentiment within the party, clashing repeatedly with the two Conservative Eurosceptic backbenchers on the committee. He said he found the language of the Eurosceptics "extraordinary" and the arguments about the loss of sovereignty "be-

wildering".

Mr Clarke said: "All nations pool their sovereignty. No nation is a political island. We were pooling sovereignty when we joined Nato and the United Nations. We ware pooling sovereignty when we sovereignty when we sovereignty when we sovereignty when the United Nations. were pooling sovereignty when we signed the Treaty of Rome and the Single European Act.

The Chancellor's sharpest words were reserved for long-standing Eurosceptic Nicho-las Budgen when he sug-gested that the "yobbos" in the party refused to be walked over by the Chancellor and the pro-single currency wing

of the party.

"A lot of Enrosceptics would like to detach us from the Continent with which our well-being is inextricably linked. It would be isolation-ist if we followed the more extreme views. It might not be isolationist in intent but isolationism might be the

consequence."
The convergence criteria laid down in the Maastricht Treaty were designed to improve economic performance and he wanted its terms on budget deficits, debt and inflation strictly enforced whether or not the Government exercised its opt-out.

"I am sympathetic to monetary union, and the better it is constructed and the more sure I am that it will work, the more I will find myself attracted to it."

Protesters storm BAe meeting

AGM ends in chaos amid claims of murder plot against Saudi exile

Simon Beavis Industrial Editor

RITISH Aerospace's Bannual general meeting collapsed in chaos yesterday after its chief executive was forced to deny involvement in an alleged plot to "kidnap or murder" the Saudi dissident, Mohammed

al-Mas'ari. Anti-arms trade campaigners halted the meeting after three hours when they pelted directors with eggs and toma-toes and stormed the podium, accusing the board of being party to genocide.

The chairman, Bob Bau-man, was forced to abandon the meeting after having tried carefully to steer it through repeated questioning about

Schoolgirls

accused of

killing pupil

"She was an extremely popular member of her form. The

girls in her class have had

the day though we will try to

continued from page 1 tated. Louise was a lovely, bubbly girl with a very wide

circle of friends.

to repressive regimes such as Indonesia.

The chief executive, Dick decision to deport Dr al-MaEvans, had faced detailed questioning, led by Labour MP George Galloway, about Saudi royals from his British his role in a campaign to silence Dr al-Mas'ari.

Mr Galloway brandished a January edition of the Guard-ian which revealed a memorandum from the head of Vickers, Sir Colin Chandler, Mr Evans and other senior defence industry figures about plans to "stifle person-ally" the Saudi dissident. "What does it mean if it

detailing conversations with

doesn't mean remove from the scene by murder or kid-nap?" the MP demanded. Mr Evans said he had no knowledge of such a conspiracy. "It is preposterous to

self, at the head of a large public company, would involve themselves in such activities." He accused Mr Gal-

Earlier a lone protester — refused permission to speak because he held only a proxy loway of being a self-publicist. The Government was forced last month to rescind a card for the meeting — was forcibly removed when he podium to make a "citizen's arrest" of the board. As the meeting became

more ill-tempered, security guards swamped the auditomain beneficiary of the £20 billion Al Yamamah arms rium and removed a further half-dozen protesters amid deal, had put its future in jeopardy by putting all its eggs into the "unstable — not

Mr Bauman acknowledged that some small shareholders had genuine concerns about arms exports, but the Government set export guidelines which the company strictly observed. "Individuals must take their comcerns to the Government," he said.

arms deals. But he said he had a duty to to defend the He refused to provide interests of the company and its shareholders. shareholders with a full copy of BAe's code of ethical conduct for employees in arms sales, but promised to furnish He refused to answer ques-

tions about the memorandum the company's arms exports | suggest that anyone like my- | in detail, saying they should | them with extracts. Twe never heard of any squabbles around here be tween girls, it's normally boys who do the scrapping be-tween different estates." Sev-eral youngsters claimed the arrival of the annual fair in

Floral tributes at the scene of the attack

their lessons suspended for get them back to normal as soon as possible." Louise's father, a lorry said Rev Sheridan. "There's driver, was away from home no bitterness, no rancour."
when she was attacked. A neighbour of the family Counsellors are helping staff and children come to Neither parent made any remembered Louise as "fun- is due comment to the press yester- loving and full of life like today.

terms with the death.

The Rev Niall Sheridan, chairman of the school's board of governors, said

town was often the sign for local rivalries to erupt Residents insisted Corby was no more violent than other towns of its size. Rev Sheridan said: "I don't think there is a culture of violence No one set out on Monday night to kill anybody. Inci-

dents like this happen in every town in every corner of every land."
A memorial mass for Louise is due to be held at the school



If you were thinking of writing poetry, don't; you'll probably have a stable marriage but have severe manic depression. If you're a playwright, you'll almost certainly become an alcoholic with "a problematic or broken marriage".

Philip Hensher, page 9



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Tories round on Hogg for failing to win beef pledge

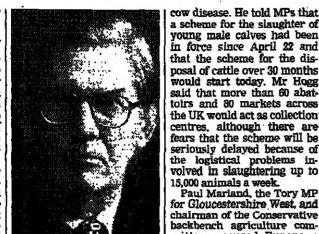
Rebecca Smithers Political Correspondent

JRIOUS Tory backenchers attacked the Douglas Hogg in a fresh anti-Europe backlash yesterday, after he failed to win a date for the lifting of the European ban on British beef during a two-day meet-

Mr Hogg tried to reassure MPs in the Commons by an nouncing that the delayed slaughter scheme for cattle over 30 months old will start today, and that the Government was pressing ahead with a legal challenge to the ban in the European Court of

But a stream of Tories, including a number of leading Eurosceptics, urged Mr Hogg to threaten retaliatory action with a ban on European imports or withdrawal of EU contributions if the ban is not lifted soon. They also told him not to give way to Brussels' demands for stricter

In his Commons statement, Mr Hogg hinted that the ban



Bill Cash . . . urged suspension of EU payments

the ban was still the Government's priority. He said the legal challenge would be lodged shortly. As far as the Government's proposal for a selective cull was concerned involving up to 42.000 animals in herds where traces of BSE had been detected - Mr Hogg alarmed Tory back-

benchers by saying the European agriculture council had suggested "additional mea-

cow disease. He told MPs that | on the ban and suggested a threat of retaliatory action "if the ban is not lifted in three a scheme for the slaughter of young male calves had been in force since April 22 and that the scheme for the disor four weeks" Leading Eurosceptic Bill posal of cattle over 30 months

Cash called for the suspension of Britain's payments to would start today. Mr Hogg Brussels while senior righttoirs and 80 markets across winger Sir Ivan Lawrence called on the Government to centres, although there are ban imports of French and fears that the scheme will be German beef to compensate seriously delayed because of for the lost exports.

the logistical problems in-volved in slaughtering up to 15,000 animals a week. Paul Mariand, the Tory MP for Gloucestershire West, and support in the Commons. chairman of the Conservative

MPs from all parties criticised the Government for failmittee, accused European ing to give farmers details about the cull of older animals, which should have questioned whether they had

Labour's agriculture spokesman Gavin Strang said that "huge uncertainty" sur-To loud cheers, his col-league David Nicholson urged Mr Hogg to consult with the Cabinet "about how much further we can go from the very selective slaughter policy you have proposed - because I don't think this side of

measures we need to take to safeguard our national Bridlington's John Tow-

Nicholas Budgen (Wolver-hampton SW) warned the Government's plan for a

started on Monday.

rounded the scheme, and the Government's failure to put it ened Mr Hogg's negotiating position in Luxembourg. the House would back such a

Paul Tyler, the Liberal Democrats' agriculture spokesman, said the "sabrerattling" of back-bench Eurosceptics and the interference progress - and what other of some Cabinet members had undermined Mr Hogg's Euro-



Bernard McEldowney: 'I realised being gay isn't an issue and shouldn't be'

PHOTOGRAPH: MIKE SCOTT

Toxteth man killed on anniversary of gangland murder

AMAN was shot dead in a betting shop in Toxteth, Liverpool, last night, exactly a year after the murder of gang leader David Ungi arms incidents on the streets

The man, so far unnamed. died instantly after he was shot in the head at close range by a lone gunman. Am-bulance staff held back until

police escort.

presence in the area at the time of the shooting because gangs on the first anniversary of the death of Ungi.

A spokesman said: "A black man has been shot dead in a betting shop in Granby Street. The body has been taken to the Royal Liverpool university hospital where a post mortem examination is being arranged."

The killing came less than an hour away from the exact anniversary of the murder of Ungi, who was killed in North Hill Street, half a mile from the betting shop.

countries of "blatant disre-

"hidden agenda",

Six weeks before Ungi died. John Phillips walked free from court, having spent several months in custody charged with the attempte murder of Ungi in 1994. The trial ended when a witness was unable to identify him. Five weeks ago, Mr Phillips

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The recent spate of shootings in Liverpool began on April 13 and has included the attack on Stephen Hardy, a 26-year-old off-duty policeman with no links to Toxteth. It is taken identiti Last night Merseyside

formation on the betting shop killing: 0151-777 5351.

Gay sergeant makes case for coming out as force for change

GAY police sergeant downey, who joined the who has concealed his homosexuality from 1982 and is now a sergeant colleagues for 14 years will tonight "come out" on television.

His move, welcomed last night by his senior officers, is the latest sign of the growth in "out" gay

Sergeant Bernard McEl-Sergeant Bernard McEldowney, aged 38, based in Birmingham with the West Midlands police, said yesterday that there was a large number of gay and lesbian colleagues who were still reluctant to be onen about their sexuality. open about their sexuality,

partly because of the "im-maturity" of colleagues. "Initially I thought there was no way I could put my-self forward in public and

come out," said Mr McEl-

in charge of a community

"Then I realised that being gay isn't an issue and shouldn't be." Mr McEldowney, origi-

nally from Northern Ireland, appears on tonight's Crime Stalker programme on ITV talking about the relationship between the police and the gay community.

"For the first seven years of my service, I had no contact with the gay community," he said. "Then I slowly started going out on the gay scene and I became more confident when I realised gays come from all walks of life."

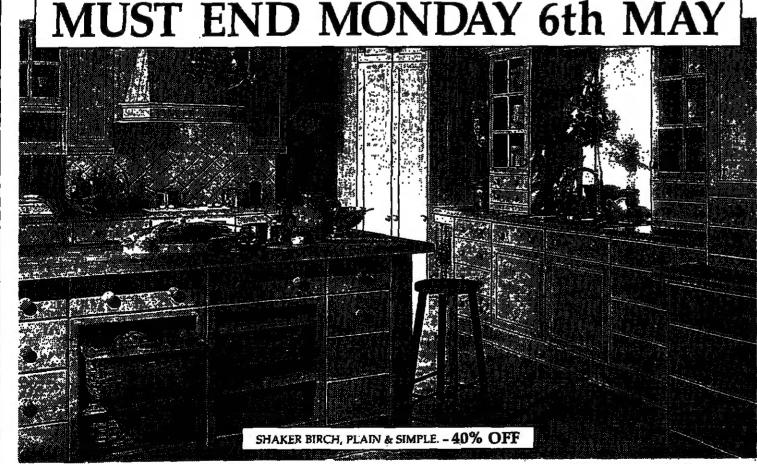
enced no negative feedback those officers who of his decision although lesbian colleagues had had problems 'because mature colleagues" and had been unwilling for this reason to appear on the

programme.
There are now more than the Lesbian and Gay Police Association (LAGPA), with more than 100 members in London and around 25 in the Midlands, Mr McEldowney said that this repre-sented only a small propor-tion of lesbian and gay

Superintendent Guest, deputy head of community services at West Midlands police, last night 'A person's sexuality is a private matter and we respect his decision." climate had changed in the last 10 years both within the police service and amongst the general public. A spokeswoman for Gay London Policing (GALOP) commended Mr McEidowney on his decision, saying that there there was still an under-reporting of crimes committed against the gay community because of a lack of trust of the police. Two police forces. Sussex and Greater Manchester, now advertise in the gay newspaper. The Pink

Other forces are consider-

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streture, strents, parents

Zulu child must return to parents

N Afrikaner woman who has been fighting for the right to adopt a Zulu boy failed yesterday in the Court of Appeal to prevent his return to his nat-

ural parents in South Africa.
The woman, known as Mrs
S, applied for a stay to block
the 10-year-old hoy's removal
so she could appeal to the
European Court of Human
Rights

Rights.

But Lord Justice Neill, sitting with Lord Justice Ward, refused the application. "Distressing though this order is, it would not be right to postpone the matter further. I have no doubt whatever that this application should be refused," he said.

The court confirmed that the child, who is a ward of court and can be identified only by the initial "P" until he leaves Britain, must return to his natural parents in Leboa. in the Transvaal. Mrs S, a British subject of Afrikaner origin, had brought P to London in 1992 intending to become his legal parent so he could join her family. P's natural mother, who

used to work for Mrs S as a housekeeper and nanny, signed a document which gave permission for him to go to Britain where the woman hold the immigration authorities she was going to adopt him. Mrs S had said she wanted to make P a member of her family, to accommo-date him her home in Maida Vale, west London, and evenually have him educated at a sading British school.

But when the natural nother was interviewed by a social worker in South Africa he said she did not want her

lokn Carvel Education Editor

a row about an excluded

2-year-old yesterday blamed

ne Government for operating

"forked tongue policy" — emanding higher standards

chools taking the steps nec-

ssary to instil good

Madelaine Watson, head of

ebburn comprehensive, was

eaking about the stalemate

hich has kept one of her pu-ils out of the school since

uly, despite a decision by an idependent appeals panel in

ecember that his exclusion

Staff in the National Associ-

ion of Schoolmasters Union

cainst teaching Graham

am, alleging that he at-

cked a teacher. But his

rents rejected the offer of a ecial education programme

nich would have kept the

by in isolation from other

poils. As the governors prepared

ir a special meeting to break the deadlock. Mrs. Watson

id she accepted the princi-

that teachers could refuse teach violent pupils. There is, however, a wider

sue which needs to be

dressed by the whole teachprofession. That is the

fixed tongue policy of the resent Government which,

th one tongue, instructs

shools to raise standards in

eucation. Meanwhile the

over tongue dictates legal pocedures that effectively

rmove from schools the

Women Teachers voted.

could be overturned.

education, but stopping

Exclusion row

'forked tongue'

HE Tyneside head pect and in which teachers

said

head blames

former employer, it was only so his name could be entered on her passport. She expected him to return within five

years.
Allan Levy QC, appearing for Mrs S, told the judges today that she wished to challenge the ruling in the European Court of Human Rights on the grounds that her family rights had been infringed.
Patricia Scotland OC and Patricia Scotland QC, act-

ing for P's natural parents, said the application was hope-less. She said the whole nature of the application was fo-cused on the interests of Mrs. S and her family life, rather than the child's.
"This is another attempt by

the applicant to try and fore-stall what is the inevitable." Last Friday three law lords backed the appeal court's original ruling in March that P must leave. During the last appeal hearing it was noted that "P had lost his ability to the state of th

speak Zulu and his links with his homeland were growing "It is against this background that one must try to reach a conclusion in this very difficult and anxious ' said Lord Justice Neill

at the time. "Anyone who has studied this case cannot fail to have great admiration for the ap-pellant and for the love and affection which she and her family have given to P since he was a haby. But he has the right to be reunited with his parents and with his extended family in South Africa."

Both sides agree that the details of how and when the boy will leave the country should

will leave the country should be secret, but he is expected to depart within a matter of

His natural mother is ex pected to travel to Britain to collect him.

Such foundations are

essential for building an or-derly environment which the

learn without disruption or

threat to their safety", she

South Typeside local aduca-

tion authority yesterday

warned the governors that

they were legally obliged to readmit the boy, but their

meeting to discuss the case

ended with no sign of a break in the deadlock.

• Robin Squire, the schools

minister, has published plans to let schools put pupils in de-

tention after normal school hours, even if parents object.

The Government is also

reconsidering parents' right

technology block at a comprehensive school in Runcorn. Cheshire, writes Dovid Word.

Fifteen fire engines and 70 firefighters pumped water from a swimming pool at a

nearby recreation centre to put out the blaze at Brook Vale school but at least a

third of the two-storey build-

have been an exploding acety-

teachers' strike.

ing was gutted.



The Stephen Joseph Theatre's new venue in Scarborough. North Yorkshire. The former Odeon cinema opened last night with the musical By Jeeves, a collaboration between playwright Alan Ayckbourn, who is also the theatre's artistic director, and Andrew Lloyd Webber. The old venue was a redundant boys' grammar school PHOTOGRAPH DON MOPHEE

RAF to leave Germany after 50 years

Faults on Polaris submarines leave two-year nuclear 'gap'

HE last four RAF squadrons in Germany are to be pulled out, ending a deployment that began in post-war occupation more than half a century ago. RAF Bruggen, the only British air base remaining from the five established in Germany at the end of the second world war, will close in 2002.

The departure is prompted partly by the German populathreat has been removed from its eastern borders, to allow the RAFs Tornados to prac tise low flying. Nor will the Germans tolerate British 60tonne Challenger tanks many of which will remain there for the foreseeable future along with 27,000 ground troops — ranging over their countryside in the way

they used to. However yesterday's de-fence white paper, in which the RAF withdrawal was announced, confirms plans for British forces to carry out manoeuvres deep in eastern Europe, on tank ranges for-

to appeal against expulsion after the re-instatement of a pupil in Nottingham last merly used by Soviet troops.
In September, armoured units will deploy to the month almost sparked a Drawsko Pomorskie range in • More than 650 pupils were western Poland, while the led to safety within three min-Royal Welch Fusiliers will exutes of a fire which spread rapidly after an explosion in a ercise on the Lvov training area in Ukraine.

· Both countries are happy to accept the environmental dis-turbance in return for hard currency. In Poland's case, making western forces wel-come is also a means, with

efence budget: principle headings, 1996 - 97, %

the despatch of peacekeeping forces to Bosnia, of establish-ing credentials for early mem-

The disclosure that the Royal Navy's Polaris nuclear deterrent patrols are to end this year, two years before the next of the new Trident missile submarines, HMS Vigilant, is ready for sea, is also buried deep in the white paper. It means that until 1988 only two submarines will be

available to maintain nuclear

deterrence instead of the three or four boats the Navy says it normally requires. A warning that this "gap" would appear came last year from the Commons defence

nittee. A series of undisclosed problems with the Polaris submarines' nuclear propulsion system has apparently forced the last two Polaris boats, Renown and Repulse, into retirement. The Chief of the Defence Staff, Field Marshal Sir Peter

509 481 455 Belgium

no doubt about providing the strategic deterrent with just two Trident boats until the other pair are completed, in 1998 and around the turn of

the century.
But the field marshal's words could be used as evi-dence by an incoming Labour administration to challenge the defence ministry's insistence on building four Tri-dent boats at a cost of £10 billion when continuous patrols could be maintained by three submarines - or for a short period, as now, by only two. The fourth boat is essen tially an insurance policy

against accident.
Yesterday's white paper lays out for Parliament the Government's justification for spending £21,425 million on defence this year. The fore-

Inge, said yesterday there was I cast trend of military expenditure is roughly level for the next three years, amounting by 1998/99 to 2.7 per cent of

gross domestic product.

against the 23 per cent average of Britain's European allies. Last year the budget was underspent by £500 million, mainly on equipment and spares. But yesterday the Defence Secretary, Michael Portillo, forecast increased expenditure on equipment. rising to more than 40 per cent of the total, and providing the armed forces with the best equipment "at any time in memory".

The standard of military housing should also benefit from cash made available by selling thousands of married quarters to private property

Former SAS men could face MoD gag on memoirs

David Fairhall and Richard Norton-Taylor

CRMER members of the SAS making their fortune from books about secret operations in Iraq and elsewhere have been warned that the Ministry of Defence will use "all appro-priate legal options" to pre-vent them disclosing sensitive military information.

Abandoning its babitual secrecy about the SAS, the Special Boat Squadron, and other special forces, the unistry used paper to remind former members that operational security was fundamental.
The Defence Secretary,
Michael Portillo, said soldiers' lives could be put at

risk by revealing their co-vert methods. "If we are not able to arrive at an agreement, then we will use the law to protect the lives of these very brave people."
A spate of memoirs in-

cluded Sergeant Andy McNab's best-selling Bravo Two Zero, a lurid tale of operations behind Iraqi lines. Legal options available to the ministry include prosecution under the Official Secrets Act or civil actions However, the High Court dismissed a government at-

tempt to seize royalties owed to George Blake, the double agent, for his memoirs, saying that preventing Blake gaining financially was "an interference with his rights of free

Oxford reprieves plans for 'bleak' development that threatens city's 'dreaming spires'

warning:

lene cylinder stored in an area used by a carting club. OXFORD city council has reprieved plans for a Two 13-year-old pupils raised the alarm and 44 teachers managed the evacuation of the building.

No one was injured but giant leisure complex in the city's historic centre. If it goes ahead, the famous "dreaming spires" skyline five restaurants and pub. ation set up to fight the nated council has yet to give of money, but don't feel such starting work by the summer, will be permanently changed. The plan has been fought scheme, claims 1,289 objectinal approval, opponents fear a monstrous scheme should and opening within the year. damage is estimated at £2

land close to the medieval colleges and churches, has been criticised by the Royal Fine Art Commission for its "gen-eral bleakness". It includes a nightclub for 1,800 people, a 10-screen cinema, bingo hall,

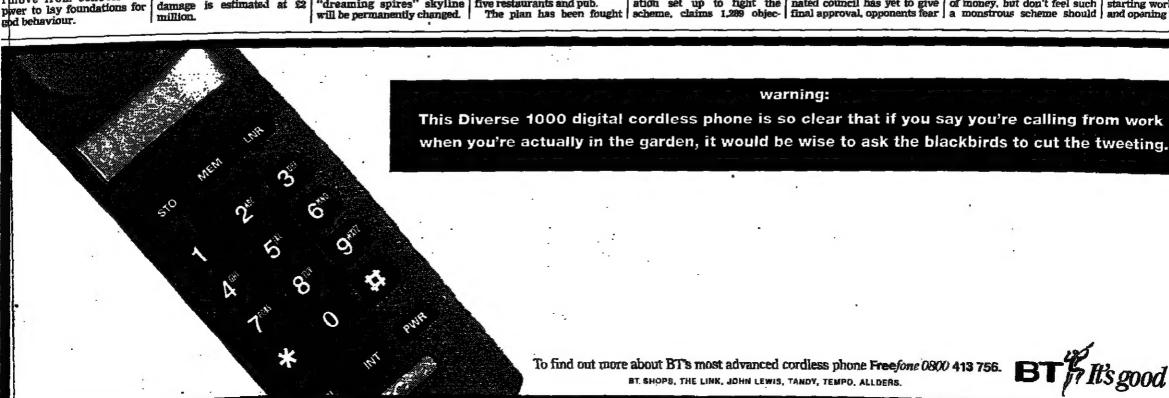
for many months by rest-tions have been made. De-dents, conservationists and spite this, councillors have architects, who say it is too big, too tall and too ugly.
They fear it will increase
Oxford's street violence and
drug-related crime.

Sendra, a residents' associ-

narrowly voted to reprieve the scheme — which planners had thrown out — to allow Pentith, the developer, to make changes. Although the Labour-domi-

the plans will survive essentially unchanged. A powerful incentive is the £3 million which Pentith has agreed to pay the council for the site. Bernard Roe, Sendra's chairman, said: "We sympathise with the council's lack

Oxford." The council has not tested public opinion. director, does not rule out redrawing the plans to secure the Fine Art Commission's endorsement. He is confident of



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BT fr It's good to talk

WORLD NEWS

Riding the storm with the wizard of Bihar

right, and an army of from the left, led by a | Hindus and Muslims. little girl in a ragged blue

thatched huts close to the lead the nation. Let's take Nepal border, rarely sees a Bihar to Delhi. Your vote is politician, and never one so beloved as Laloo Prasad Ya-day, aged 48, the champion of and per capita income levels the poor in one of India's fall woefully short of India's

poorest states, Bihar. When Laloo, as he is uni-versally known, stepped up to message. And nobody is When Laloo, as he is unisea of expectant faces, it was as a man giving the down-

for centuries been denied. said, "I am with you. Fifty years of Congress govern-ment have left your children poor. All over Bihar, your children cannot read, they do

were being squandered in children swarmed in senseless violence between

"I will give you a better dress. Laloo's helicopter had arrived dian people know that when Triveniganj. a hamlet of Bihar awakens, Bihar will

> average and where violence is capable of delivering it as eloquently as Laloo. The youngest son of an illit-

erate farmer. Laloo spent his childhood looking after the family fierd: two goats, a buf-falo and a cow. But he was luckier than his five brothers: he was sent to the state capital. Patna, for an education. not have enough to eat, they | hungry, send your children to

mHE cows and goats | have no roof above their | school," he said yesterday, galloped off to the | heads." Their lives, he added, | And he pleaded with his audience to vote in the next stage of the elections today and on May 7. He pressed his thumb against a giant green wheel the election symbol of his Janata Dal Party, to show the people how,

Already a hero as chief minister of Bihar, with a population of 95 million and a land mass larger than Ger-many, Laloo has become a leader of national importance. As president of the Janata Dal, the core of the National Front Left Front pact, he is a potential prime minister should the alliance of regional parties perform strongly in the elections.

India's elite reviles him, be-cause he flaunts low caste peasant roots and refuses to be intimidated by the West. But the people who heard him yesterday, low caste Hin-dus like himself or Muslims,



rollicking rhyming Hindi, his his imitations of Bombay

novie heroes. They roared with laughter when Laloo mocked the rich, they nodded in recognition when he lamented the misery of the poor, they beamed with pride, when he told them about his visit to Britain and they yelled zindabad — long life — when he got ready to

Suzanne Goldenberg accompanies Laloo Prasad Yadav as he works his magic on rapt audiences

It was the same at each of his eight stops in the north-ern and eastern border areas of Bihar — including an un-scheduled visit to Rota, a village of 5,000 with a stage oft by 10. Only a few hundred people had gathered, and there was no policeman in sight. "We got the information only half an hour ago," a "Only 10 minutes ago," amended another.
Laloo said: "Nothing's

in one of India's

poorest states

ready? Don't worry, brothers, it doesn't matter." By the time the helicopter whirred again, the people were coming, running across the fields from every direction.

On board, Laloo kept his strength up with tobacco. which he rubbed into a paste on his palm, and pean, or betel nut. He spoke about his dreams for Bihar, punctuating the conversation by sending great red jets of saliva into the stainless steel spittoon at his feet.

He pointed to the changing terrain beneath us: lumps of black basalt bubbling out of the plains; the holy Ganges and the treacherous Kosi whose floods rob thousands of people of their homes every rainy season; sunflowers, banames, and sun-baked fields awaiting the next crop of wheat fields of dhal (lentils) and rice, the staple diet of the

ordinary Indian. But amid the beauty, the in-

escapable poverty of one of india's least developed states; roads bare of cars or even tractors; villages where only Hindu temples and Christian churches dare to rise above the thatched roofs.

As the daytime heat descended, Laloo took advantage of the relative privacy—
there were only the two pilots
and me — to cool off by sticking one foot and then the other out the window of the airborne helicopter.

By lunchtime we were at Salmari, a village of 10,000 cut off from civilisation by a river. The helicopter flew

river. The helicopter flew away for refuelling.
Laloo spoke, and went on speaking. By the time the helicopter reappeared more than two hours later, he had invited a barefoot man with his son dangling from his hip up to the stage for a singalong and listened patiently to harangues from several old to harangues from several old women in tattered saris.

We got on board, but it ws getting late, and a summr storm was brewing. Daylight fled. We flew through the ran over high red mountains coered with trees, the helicoptr buffeted by strong winds. It-loo flicked his hands pala-

"The weather is very bac" he said. "The helicopter my overturn

And then at last, Paina apeared and the welcoming ights of the airport runws. The helicopter fluttered down

to a landing. Laloo got out. The airtied was deserted. The fleet of cas carrying his entourage was waiting at another airfield.5 miles away. Laloo telephond for transport, then change his mind.

"Let's walk," he said. %e had just left the airfield gass when a single white car care to the rescue. "We've had worse day."

Silent Australia mourns massacre victims

Christopher Zinn in Canberra

ERRIES stopped in Sydney Harbour, the Stock Exchange suspended trading, and traffic came to a standstill as Australia observed a minute's silence yesterday for the 35 killed in the Tasmanian

Flags flew at half mast, church bells tolled, and people wept in the streets as thousands attended the national memorial service at St David's Anglican Ca-

thedral in Hobart.

A message from the Queen was read in which she spoke of the healing power of a mass outpouring blane. "It was impossible to relieve their suffering, but possible to share it a little,

At the hospital where suspected gunman Martin Bryant, aged 28, and 11 of the wounded are being treated, more than 400 staff and patients stood silent at 10.30am local time.

The prime minister, John Howard, joined other political leaders to lay wreaths at the former penal colony of Port Arthur three days after a man ran amok with two semi-automatic gurs.

Mr Howard visited the Broad Arrow Cafe, where 20 people were gunned "This is an event which has shaken the core of this country in a way no individual crime has in my

lifetime," he said.
An official at the Royal Hobart Hospital said that death threats against Mr Bryant, who is being treated under high security in an isolation ward, had continued. He said Mr Bryant, who has been charged with one murder so far and is suffering from burns caused at the end of the siege, may have to stay for

up to three weeks.

Gun dealers in Tasmania have reported increased sales of semi-automatic rifles before a possible ban on such weapons.

Mr Howard has called a meeting of state police minsters on May 10 to discuss tightening gun laws. His proposals will include "a ban throughout Australia on all automatic and semiautomatic weapons." he said yesterday.

Leader comment, page 8



Quiet contemplation . . . Thousands attended a memorial service in Hobart for those massacred PHOTOGRAPH: RICK RYCROFT

Honour quitting

national sales tax she had

promised to fight. "I've al-

ways been able to look people straight in the eye." she said. — Reuter.

Scientists in California and

China say a set of fossils known as Peking Man is at

least 100,000 years older than believed. The finding suggests

either that primitive homi-

nids in Asia perished before

modern humans came into ex-

istence, or that they evolved

A depressed Romanian who

survived a jump from a 10-

storey building after taking 50 tranquillisers is looking for a

better way to kill himself. A

local newspaper said a parked

into our ancestors. - AP.

Soft landing

Peking Man ages

News in brief

US edges closer as Liberian warlord advances on rivals

the shore yesterday while Krahn warriors advanced on rival militia.

Three ships from a US amphibious battle group which has been lying off the coast for about 10 days were clearly to the homes of Mr Taylor visible from the city. Helicopters flew back and forth to the embassy. Scattered shooting was continuing in the area

Reports said Krahns from son. - Reuter.

WARSHIPS defending the Armed Forces of Liberia their embassy in the Liberian capital moved closer to south-east of Monrovia, were

and Alhaji Kromah. We are going to Congo Town for them." confirmed Madison Wion, spokesman for Krahn warlord Roosevelt John-

advancing towards Congo Town, where Charles Taylor and Alhaji Kromah, vice-

Within four years, the Luards' middle-class, bohemian existence changed for

ever: their eldest daughter, Francesca, was diagnosed **HIV** positive.

Angela Neustatter

US names Iran | The Bujumbura road had on state terror

Iran was yesterday named the main "state sponsor of inter-national terrorism" by the United States, which cited Tehran's alleged support for groups from north Africa to central Asia. The state department annual report on inter-national terrorism said seven Iranian murders of dissidents

were confirmed last year.
The report listed Iran,
Syria, Cuba, Iraq, Libya,
North Korea and Sudan as
sponsors of international terrorism - the same seven countries as last year. -- AP.

Chain blackmail

A blackmailer has attempted to extort more than DM1 million (£435,000) from a German retailer by setting off explosions in supermarkets. police in Essen said yesterday. Small bombs went off last month in Aldi supermarkets in Halle. Leipzig and Brunswick. — Reuter.

Burundians flee

The main road out of Burundi's capital reopened yester-2,000 Burundians had fled into Zaire to escape violence. | car broke his fall. - Reuter

Dead' rebel cause of landmines laid by speaks out Hutu rebels. Heavy machine-

gun fire rocked the suburb of Kiriri yesterday, witnesses said.—Reuter. HE Chechen rebel leader, Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, in fighting spirit and good hu-mour, dismissed reports of The Canadian deputy prime his death yesterday. minister, Sheila Copps. human being can only plan, but it is God who decides," resigned yesterday because the government had failed to Yandarbiyev told abolish a controversial

reporters.
Several officials of the pro-Moscow Chechen government had said that Mr Yandarbiyev. aged 44, and other rebels died last Sunday night in a gun battle near Urus-Martan, 15 miles south of the

capital, Grozny. Mr Yandarbiyev, who took over as leader after Dzhokhar Dudayev was killed in a rocket attack on April 21, reiterated that there could be no real peace talks with Moscow while Russian troops remained in Chechenia.

Nor would there be negotiations until it was clear whether Moscow was respon-sible for Mr Dudayev's death, he added. He said the rebels would report the findings of | Or to fill in the gaping potan investigation into his death by May 10. - Reuter.

Pass Notes, G2, page 3

Dole asks Gingrich to heal abortion schism

Martin Walker In Washington

ENATOR Robert Dole. lagging more than 20 points behind President Bill Clinton, has turned to Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House, to invigorate his faltering campaign, reunite his squabbling party and turn the Republican Party convention in August into a desper-ately needed triumph.

With Mr Gingrich's ratings in opinion polls worse than any American politician since Richard Nixon, the choice was a measure of Republican desperation.

Mr Gingrich withdrew from the public eye in January for "a period of reflection" after being out-man-eouvred by Mr Clinton in the budget battle. He re-emerged last weekend on late-night television with a squealing pig. a live newt and other fauna, to show that "we are not against the environment". The talk-show host, Jay Leno, quipped: "These newts are pretty slippery

Named "permanent chair man" of the Republican convention yesterday, Mr Ging-rich's main task will be to forge a compromise on the divisive issue of abortion. The party dreads a repeat of the 1992 convention at Housthe Christian Coalition and

have offended moderate

oters. The Republican national committee named one key eader from each camp as cochairmen of the convention. chairmen of the convention. George Bush Jun, governor of Texas, is a member of the right-to-life wing, and Christine Todd Whitman, governor of New Jersey, is the most prominent of the liberal Republicans who support selection rights abortion rights.

But the pro-abortion wing complained of a trap yester-day after Mr Dole approved a deal under which two leaders of the anti-abortion movement were named co-chairmen of the platform committee, which writes the party

"I don't think this reflects the views of the majority of the Republican party nation-wide, said Pete Wilson, the liberal-minded governor of California. Mr Wilson has vowed to fight against the party platform, which prom-ises a constitutional amendment to outlaw abortion. But Bay Buchanan, Mr Bu-

chanan's sister and campaign manager, said: "The right of the unborn to live is not an issue that we are willing to compromise at all. The right

will speak at the convention. The Republicans appear to to campaigning.

the rightwing populist Pat be trapped in an ideologial Buchanan were thought to civil war, rather like he Democrats' struggle over ne Vietnam war, which exed them from presidential pli-tics for a generation. Ir Gingrich, who has been ntween his party's right wag and its far-right wing in Cr

> it at the convention in an Diego in August. The convention has taken on greater importance recause of the near-collapse of Mr Dole's fund-raising effrt. as donors look gloomily at is unprecedented deficit in he opinion polls.

He was forced to lay off campaign staff last morh, and can expect little reef until the convention wek. when he receives \$60 milbn (£40 million) in public finds for the autumn campaign.

Mr Dole will need a riumph at the convention to reversa the polls, but an Diego, on the Californan coast, is the stronghold of Ar Wilson who was a second to the coast, is the stronghold of Ar Wilson, who was once its mayor. Mr Wilson will flht hard, not only to prevent he party from adopting too x-treme a position on aborton but also to secure his hope of inheriting the leadership of

the chastened party. Mr Dole is trying to fendiff calls from congr requires us to fight." leagues to step down from is Mr. Buchanan has said he post as Senate majority leaer

Washington rots as mayor seeks 'spiritual fortification'

Martin Walker in Washington

MARION BARRY, the mayor of Washington who was re-elected despite being imprisoned after the FBI videotaped him smoking crack cocaine, denied reports yesterday that he had relapsed into drug and

alcohol abuse.

Mr Barry left an expensive health farm in Baltimore where he had gone "for spiritual and physical renewal" and was on his way to another retreat ewhere more secluded

The mayor's disappearance from city hall made Washington safe once more for President Clinton, who ventured out for a rare meeting with civic activists

yesterday.
Mr Clinton has steered well clear of any public identification with the most notorious Democrat felon to have been reelected to public office. Complaining of "intens

personal and political pres-sure". Mr Barry said: "I'm just trying to fortify myself spiritually." Washington is techni-

cally bankrupt, and its finances are in the hands of an emergency commission appointed by the Republican Congress. Congress, content for Washington to remain a symbol of Demo-cratic incompetence, is happy to leave Mr Barry with responsibilities but few real powers.

The mayor has been con-fronted with demonstrations by students fearing the closure of the University of the District of Columbis. But he lacks the authority to keep it open. Or to pay the refuse collectors. holes which give much of the US capital the look and thing is for they themselves to do something about it." World city.

Mob violence stalks Kenya

Greg Barrow in Nairobi reports on

the government's defence of its record

has published a 40-page dossier defending its human rights record. The report comes as Kenyan human rights groups grow in-creasingly vocal about a rise in mob violence and a break-down of law and order.

In the report, The Way It Is, the government argues that its overall record is positive, and blames budgetary restraints for preventing the authorities from addressing every human rights issue. "Over the last five years, tremendous achievements

were recorded [on] the human rights front," it says. "There are certainly areas in which it is possible to ef-fect further improvements. The government is tackling

Kenyan human rights groups say the report offers no answers to the growing problem of civil disorder. Incidents of crowds taking the law into their own hands are

on the increase Almost every day the media carry reports of civilians being beaten, necklaced with burning tyres, or hacked to

The government is either unable or unwilling to curb crime in the country and this creates a lot of frustration." says Maina Kiai, the director of the Kenyan human rights commission.

ted, no action is taken. The police seem completely unable to move, so the people have decided that the best Simon Kibuthu Mburu, I trouble.

"When a crime is commit-

for burns he received who a crowd of angry peole accused him of stealingthe purse of a woman waitingst a bus stop in central Nairot "I was out collecting pper

to sell to a recycling facory when someone accused me of being a thief," he says. "A crowd gathered ind began beating me with sicks until I was unconscious, hen

they laid tyres on me anset them alight. I was leftfor dead until the police fund me lying there like a dog.' The government says t is impossible to control eery incidence of civil disoler, but John Githongo, a com-nist in a regional newsper which has campained against mob violence, be-lieves the rulers are to blme. Human life is cheaper ere

in Kenya than ever befre.

he says.
"The levels of violoce against human beings are totally out of proportio to the crimes that have een committed. The troubl is that people can't look tcany part of our society for mral leadership: if you has a problem, you either ribe your way out of it or yo use violence to solve it."

Data collected by the human rights commision lence have tripled in thepast two years, far outstriping deaths due to ethnic clahes death by angry mobs seeking and banditry, and it fearthat vengeance for petty crimes or minor disputes about land or petty thieves is becoming an petty thieves is becoming an acceptable way of punihing crime.

The government disusses its data as "a propagndist catalogue of critinal incidents".

But the commission avs: There's a feeling tha the government actually acepts mob violence. We've beome a society that doesn't cae for the weak and the poo We care much more about roperty and wealth, and if hat's the case, we're a society's big

1 (DO 1 / DD)

Peres denies French friction

prsday May 2 19

was browing David

SRAEL'S prime minister. Shimon Peres, yesterday played down friction with France over the US-brokered ceasefire in south Lebanon.

"There is no contradiction between Israeli and French policy," he said after lunch with President Jacques Chirac. "We both hope that the Lebanese regain their political independence and their territorial integrity," he added, during a six-hour stopover on his way back from the US.

The French foreign minister. Hervé de Charette, has claimed that 80 per cent of the ceasefire deal was based on French ideas. During the crisis, diplomats said Israel believed France's ideas favoured Arab states.

In Washington, meanwhile.

In Washington, meanwhile.
President Clinton gave the red carpet treatment to the Palestinian leader. Yasser Arafat, to thank him for de-

Arafat, to thank him for deciding to drop a long-standing call for Israel's destruction.

Mr Arafat won no new pledges of US aid but President Clinton did promise to work to persuade donor nations to honour \$2.4 billion (\$1.5 billion) in pledges to (£1.6 billion) in pledges to help Palestinian economic



War game . . . Ahmed Ganeem, aged four, plays in Qana, south Lebanon, a day after the village buried 83 refugees killed by Israeli shells on April 18 PHOTOGRAPH AHMED AZAGR

Yeltsin drops pledge to stop capital punishment as crime mounts

Europe slates rising use of Russian death penalty

among some of the 38 member states of the Council of Europe at a steep rise in the use of capi-tal punishment in Russia, in defiance of promises the country made when it joined the council earlier this year. President Boris Yeltsin ha ordered an unprecedented number of executions of crim-inals found guilty of a capital

In the first three months of this year alone, he refused a reprieve to 46 people. Most or all of them have been executed. Three years ago, only four people were executed out of 152 cases referred to him. of 153 cases referred to him for reprieve.

The increasing use of the death penalty — delivered by a bullet in the back of the head — is placing Russia in breach of its obligations as a recent member of the Council of Europe. Moscow undertook to impose a three-year moratorium on state executions, pending the abolition of the

death penalty.

The Russian foreign minister, Yevgeni Primakov, will face tough questioning when

will end criminality in 10 days. I would order all criminals shot. Vladimir Zhirinovsky, leader of the **Liberal Democratic Party**

The death penalty is applied in more than 100 countries, including . . 12 member states of the Council of Europe.

rium on executions. There is

a debate now about how this moratorium must be intro-duced, by president's decree

or by a resolution of the state

opinion were forcing the

courts and the president to

Yuri Skuratov, prosecutor-general

dations to the Russian president on appeals to commute the death penalty to a life sentence, told the Guardian: "There is still no decision in Russia on imposing a moratorium on acceptions. There is

ments on capital punishment and other human rights reform issues when it was admitted to the Council of Europe in January," a council spokesman said in Brussels yesterday.

"These alarming reports, suggesting that far from sus-pending executions they are being used with increasing frequency, are certain to be examined very closely."

Professor Sergei Vitsin, a senior member of a commis-

killing has fallen to as little as £130 — a week's wages for many Muscovites. The latest victim was Dmitry Nechayev, the prime minister's doctor, who was shot twice in the head. Such cases are inflaming public opinion.

With law enforcement agencies under heavy pressure to get results, prisons are overcrowded. Mr Yeltsin recently increased to 30 days the

increased to 30 days the period a suspect can be de-tained pending a decision by

tailed pending a decision by the prosecutor-general.

Lev Razgon, a former Gulag prisoner who is on the com-mission, wrote in the Izvestia newspaper: "The number of people facing the death penal-ty is growing. There is ty is growing. There is no place to keep them, and the problem is being resolved by mass executions, according to many people in the juridical system. A builet is cheaper than building new prisons. As long as the moratorium required by the Council of Europe is not introduced, the machine sending people to their deaths will be working countries."

or by a resolution of the state
Duma, but there is no precedent for this."

Prof Vitsin, one of 15 people
on the commission, said
social pressures and public
oninion were forcing the overtime."
There is also concern in the Council of Europe at the role of the Russian forces in the Chechen war. When it joined a total ceasefire and immediers on a political settlement.

	get tough on crime. "We are living through a phase of growing cruelty in the penal policies of the state, and the reason is growing pressure from society," he said.	a total co ate talks ers on a l	easefire and with Chec political set	l immedi- hen lead- lement
	"Com society, ne said.	HC	PES DENI	
	"Our commission is very		Reprieved	Executed
	strongly criticised in the	1985	5	404
	press, especially the provin-	1986	12	177
	cial press, for trying to make	1987	10	130
	the punishment less severe	1988	9	88
	The local press is clamouring	1989	4	76
	for greater punishment — the	1990	12	72
	crueller, the better. There is a	1991	37	
	widespread belief that the	1992		15
ĺ	more severe the punishment	1993	55	1
	the more effective bunishings,		149	4
١	the more effective the fight	1994	134	19
ı	against crime."	1995	5	86
ł	Police detectives in Moscow	1996 (to date	0	46
I	say the price of a contract			

Triple killer condemned to die in US 'is mentally impaired'

Christopher Reed in Los Angeles

DEFENCE lawyers making a last-minute appeal for a condemned triplemurderer in California say prison officials withheld vital mental health documents for 12 years. Keith Daniel Williams

17 years, and is to die by lethal injection tomorrow. In 1978 he shot dead two brothers when they refused to return a \$1,500 (£1,000) bad cheque he had written for their old car. He then kidnapped a woman and shot her in the head while raping her.

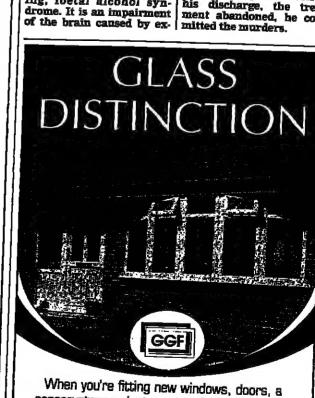
Williams, now 48, displays symptoms of a condition commonly associated with sudden senseless kill-ing, foetal alcohol syn-

cessive drinking during

pregnancy. He was frequently beaten by his stepfather and suf-fered head injuries in adolescence in three accidents. This history is classic among condemned men in the US, but is usually ignored in the current mood

for more executions.
In Williams's case, pairment emerged only two weeks ago, when prison officials turned over 595 pages of documents which had first been requested in 1984. The Bureau of Prisons had maintained they did not exist.

Richard Mazer, the defence attorney,said when Williams was in prison before the murders he received medication and was a model prisoner. After his discharge, the treatment abandoned, he com-



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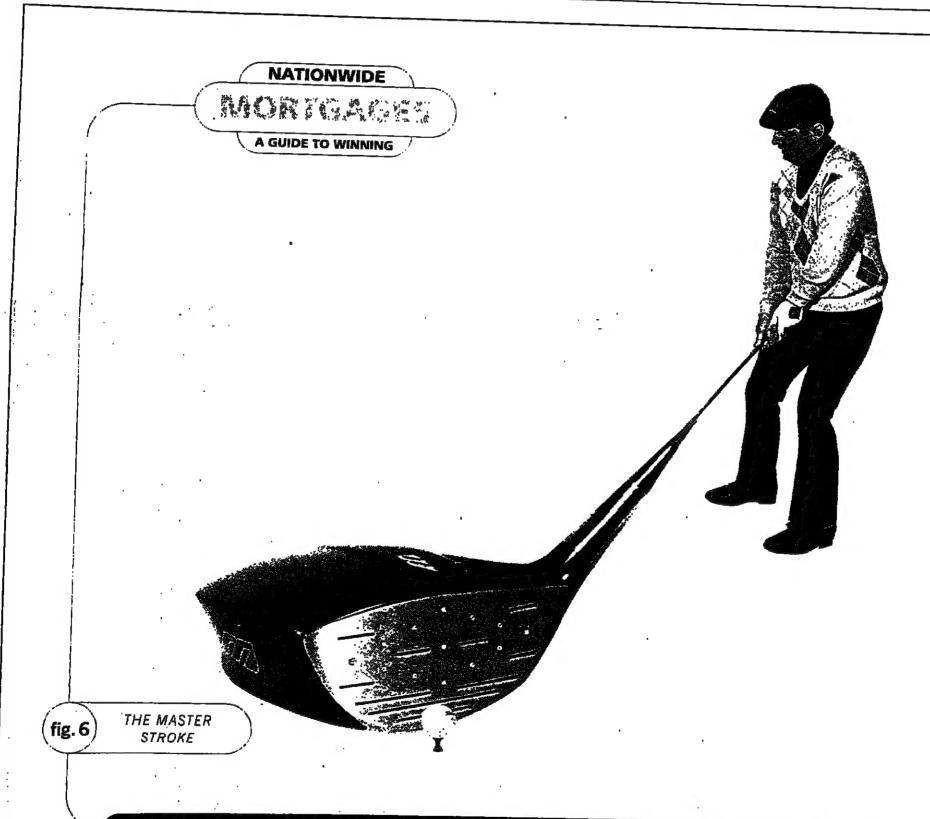
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The Guardian

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A mock general election

Today's polls should be a verdict on John Major

IT IS easy, but wrong, to belittle the booths today - and all who can vote role which the annual local elections | should do so - need to recognise that more vital to community life than it has general election, but it is by far the now become. True, it is a shadow of the system built and bequeathed with such justifiable pride by the Victorians. True, it has been chopped, changed and manipulated in shameless ways, so that those who understand the system are increasingly outnumbered by those who are bewildered by the process of change. And yet local government has that the Conservatives are frightened somehow survived, partly because it has popular support, partly because it is rather efficient at what it does, but | Don't forget that last year's elections above all because most people still want their services to be delivered and held accountable locally. In any thriving society, local government will always be the bedrock of meaningful democracy and public service.

It is no accident that the Conservatives have suffered so much in local elections over recent years. For the party of the small platoons has betrayed its beliefs when in power. The Conservatives since 1979 have been centralisers not devolvers. They have been power-grabbers not power-sharers. Not for them the vision of local government as a counterweight to the over-mighty nation state. Instead, for the narrowest and most intolerant of partisan reasons, the Conservatives have undermined local government in a way which still shocks many of their own supporters. As a result it is not suprising that the ous alternatives on offer from various local elections have come increasingly rich grocers. Who knows what other to be seen as a judgment on national dark mischief is now afoot in the party? politicians rather than as a verdict on But it will only happen if the Conservawho would provide the best bin collectives get the drubbing which they de-

wish it otherwise, today's polling in who have tried to do the best they can English local authorities has become in a situation they dislike. But the another referendum on John Major's important thing today is to vote them government. People who go to the all down, by the best means available.

play in this country's democracy. True, they have the future of the Conservalocal government ought to be so much | tive Party in their hands. This is not a most important exercise of popular po-litical choice this side of the general election. People do not often have such power, but they have it today.

It has become fashionable in Westminster to say that the Conservative Party has long ago discounted the results. This is not true. The truth is about them and are trying to put a brave face on the expected humiliation. precipitated Mr Major's put-up-or-shutup leadership election. His victory last July was supposed to be the start of a new phase, in which the Conservatives gradually began to turn the bad poll results around. These 1996 elections were to be a key step in the rehabilitation. If they turn out to be no better than 1995, or maybe even worse, then Mr Major's strategy will have failed. He will have forfeited the trust which his party placed in him. It is simply incon-ceivable that the leadership — and hence the future of the government —

can be indifferent to tonight's results. That is why the Conservative Right, and their supporters in the press, have now started to harrass Mr Major once again. That is why the party of government has begun to be so flaky, and why a few have begun to flirt with glamourserve today. It will be hard luck on That is why, however much one may some perfectly decent Tory councillors

Handguns must be banned now This is an area where it is right to move speedily with the tide

A MIRACULOUS conversion occurred ment to determine." And so say all of yesterday. The Unmagnificent Six ap us. Or almost all except the Home Office peared to be metamorphosing into the ministers involved. David Maclean de-Responsible Sextet. No other group of | lended the delay by insisting "all the ministers in the current government | main parties have said we must resist has been so ready to shoot from the hip as the current Home Office gang. Years of patient legislative preparation by predecessors has been cavalierly torn up, shredded and tossed aside by the Michael Howard band. Yet yesterday one of the most unreconstructed members of the team, David Maclean, who is so ready to resort to knee-jerk reactions he is rarely let out, spoke out against | miss the chance this side of the next knee-jerk legislation. What's going on? Would Billy the Kid give up guns? In fact guns provide the explanation. Six weeks on from the killing of 16 children harder because although the British and their teacher at Dunblane, minis- gun lobby is not as formidable as its ters have already begun to fudge on American cousin, it remains a powerful tighter gun control. Doubters should body. This is why so many gaps remain listen to David Mellor, a former Conser- | in our current controls. Take the bigvative Home Office minister at the time | gest one of all: in 1988, as a response to of the Hungerford shootings, who the Hungerford shootings, semi-autorightly warned yesterday of time run- matic rifles were prohibited but hand-

delay legislative change. Mellor was blunt about the 35 options als that are really a matter for govern- be banned forthwith.

knee-jerk legislation."

Of course it was right to set up the Cullen inquiry. Of course it is right for ministers to submit evidence. But ministers do not need to wait for Cullen to take action on guns. Indeed, if they were serious about tighter controls, they would have acted this session. By waiting for Cullen they will inevitably general election. Gun control is one issue where ministers do need to move with the tide. Once missed, it is much ning out on gun law reform. No one is guns, most of which are semi-automore familiar with the way the British | matic. were not. Yet handguns were gun lobby is able to prevaricate and also used by Michael Ryan at Hungerford — and Thomas Hamilton in Dunblane — to commit their grisly mass which Home Office - and Scottish murders. In at least one respect hand-Office - ministers submitted to Lord guns are even more dangerous than Cullen's inquiry into the Dunblane rifles - the ease with which they can shootings yesterday: "I personally be concealed. Just like a rifle, they are think it was a serious error for the capable of rapidly firing a large number Home Office to queue up in front of of rounds without reloading. We should Lord Cullen to put to him policy propos- not need to wait for Cullen. They should

An English metaphor on the bench

Glenn Hoddle is obviously the man to rout the Eurosceptics

ANYONE who saw Glenn Hoddle in his | tional football, rather than dismissing skills, as the Tottenham side was. Now traditionalist. the England team of the 1990s will have the chance that their predecessors were | tacit recognition that England needs to denied. Great players do not necessarily make great managers, of course. Sir | tend to a divine right to win merely Bobby Charlton found that out the hard way and few people would claim that was punctured after the second world Paul Gascoigne, undoubtedly the best war and was followed by an attempt to English footballer of the 1990s, possesses ideal management qualities strong, and many believed in the 1980s either. But Mr Hoddle has shown that | that a return to a go-it-alone approach

The case for Mr Hoddle is that he for work-rate. He actually likes interna-

footballing prime will know that he was it as inherently inferior to the sacred one of the most gifted players of any | English game. In football terms he is a era. The England team of the 1980s pro-European rather than a Euroscepshould have been built around his tic, and a moderniser rather than a

The choice of Mr Hoddle is another adapt to succeed. England cannot prebecause it is England. That pretence go European. But the old ways were he does. He is the right man for the job. | would bring back the glory days. Many still do, and there is a minority of knows how to take English football out | English nationalists on the sidelines of the blind alley into which the kick- whose hatred of foreigners blinds them and-run game has taken the national to the reality that our future is Euroteam. Mr Hoddle is a thinker and an pean. Mr Hoddle disagrees. That's what apostle of skills, rather than a fanatic | will make him a good English manager - as well as a good English metaphor.



Letters to the Editor

Euro-splits among the left On the question of God, and what she wants from us

march of Europe should be halted is wrong in its diag-nosis and hence its prescrip-Arena, April 29). The job of politicians is to answer the questions the world puts to our society, not to wish them away. I'm afraid that is exactly what the Eurosceptics are

doing.
The reality is that European integration is driven by economic forces over which politicians have little or no

The single market is the product of decisions by thousands and thousands of individual managers, entrepreneurs, scientists and engineers who have recog-nised that, to compete with Japan and the US, we need a domestic market at a Euro-pean level of aggregation.

This industrial union has and will happen without the intervention of politicians. necessary to protecting the social standards we have fought for over decades. To the anoroach European into the European Central Bank. tegration like supermarket modern industrial society.

The creation of a single

market will continue even if | Gordon Brown will lose conlate-18th-century politicians asking for a pause in the industrial revolution. If we are levels of public spending.

To protect these gains and promote a high-wage, high-skill there is "no alternative" to Manchester M20 8RP.

THERE is "compelling evi-

dence that budget payment units meet the needs of some

customers and are liked by

them. To ban them would

deny customers the opportu

nity of access to a helpful and

flexible payment option." No, not the words of a water-com-

pany representative, but the

thoughts of water industry

regulator Ian Byatt, Director

Stuart Miller's somewhat jaundiced view that water

companies are avoiding laws

resource (Prepay for your week's tap water or go with-

out, April 23) omits to men-

tion the wholesale support for

prepayment devices by both

Ofwat and Ofwat's National

Customer Council. Since 1993

we have been piloting a pre-

payment device - WaterKey

mingham, Customers do like

the system, which is entirely voluntary. An independent

poll revealed an overwhelm

HE aim of Anglian Water's

trials of "prepayment de-vices" has been to offer cus-

tomers an extra choice in a

range of flexible payment op-

tions. It is completely volun-tary. We started a small trial

in the Milton Keynes area and

we have occurs when we try

and take the unit out, because

the customers don't want to

Our range of payment op-

tions has meant that each

disconnection for non-pay-

the year before privatisation,

2.093 people were discon-

nected. Last year just 204

were disconnected and our

aim is to reduce this still

Cambridgeshire PE18 6NZ.

part with it.

further.

John McAngus.

Anglian Water.

Ambury Road.

Huntingdon.

ingly positive reaction. Brian Duckworth.

Managing Director.

Severn Trent Water. 2,297 Coventry Road,

Birmingham B26 3PU.

with customers in Bir-

General of Ofwat.

In full flood

Glyn Ford MEP. 97-113 Rue Belliard, Brussels B-1047.

OR too long the debate about Europe has been dominated by a nationalist thesis and an internationalist anti-thesis. So Larry Elliott's article (Is it 'auf wiedersehen, pet, the Project's not on?', April 29) usefully made the point that you don't have to be xenophobic to be against economic and monetary union - just someone who has noticed that adherence to Maastricht-style monetary criteria in France and Ger-many have gone side by side with mass unemployment

The convergence criteria in the Maastricht Treaty are very clear and incompatible with economic growth. New Labour supporters of Maastricht either have not actually read the treaty or believe that

no one else has. But what will not happen is the associated measures so necessary to protecting the on growth and unemploy-But the truth is that, if Prime shelving to pick and choose a Minister Tony Blair takes to carte is to misunderstand Britain into economic and Chancellor of the Exchequer the tap is turned off. It's like | troi of the exchange rate, over

IT'S A SERIES ON UNPLEASANT THINKS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT EDWARDS

AND VII

Edward still causing trouble

RESENT television aiding quite right to forget him and and abetting Prince Edward his whore "as she was called and his production company."

HAUN SPIERS'S argu- economy, we have no choice | EMU but the truth is that, in ment that the forward | but to make the best of it. | practice, only a small group march of Europe should | Glyn Ford MEP. | of countries which are al. practice, only a small group of countries which are al-ready in a de facto Deutschmark zone (eg France, Ger-many and the Benelux countries) can realistically join EMU in 1999. And Britain could survive perfectly well outside that group. Depressingly, the TUC, in a complete collapse of intellectual self-confidence, refuses to face the deflationary facts about sive language because it is Maastricht and is content to more accurate. St John's Gos-parrot the fashionable view pel tells us that God is spirit

House of Commons.

THOSE who have flinched from making a serious challenge to EMU for fear of siding with the Teddy Taylors and Teresa Gormans of this world have ended up aligning themselves with the forces of European deflation as laid down in the Maastricht Treaty. Thus many of those who spent the eightles fighting monetarism in Britain entered the nineties support-ing it at the European level.

Without a constructive al-ternative to EMU and Maas-tricht, the Left risks having start to vindicate the predic tion that EMU will do more harm than good to the cause of European understanding.

GEORGE Austin yet again | the Holy Spirit must be male, seems to play his role of | as Christ undoubtedly was on the intolerant cleric of a certain age who can't cope with changes in the liturgy and language of Christianity (Rebuilding Jerusalem for our times, April 30). Inclusive language for many of us is not a joke but a life-giving and affirming way of speaking about God and each other. Many Christians use inclu-

parrot the fashionable view pel tells us that God is spirit and it is the answer to Britain's long-term economic decline.

Diane Abbott MP.

be tells us that God is spirit and, therefore, is beyond gender. So why is Mr Austin so worried about using a few female pronouns for God? Does it threaten his masculinity?

Try telling abuse survivors

of either gender — who
have been abused by their fathers that God is like a father and see how far that gets you. Inclusive language widens our notions and ideas about God and does not limit them in the same way that traditional male-centred lan-

guage does.

I, for one, no longer feel that we can effectively share our faith with black people if we sing hymns which say our 'souls are black with sin". ask people in wheelchairs to journey with us if we sing "stand up for Jesus" or asmonetary union in 1999, nothing to offer once events sume that women will be very impressed by the fact that Jesus died "for us men and for our salvation"

(Rev) Andy Braunston Metropolitan Community 165 Mulberry Court, Mulberry Road. Salford M6 5FG.

EVERY organisation as large as the Church of England must have a lunatic fringe and jolly George seems to be Fleet Street's favourite. Inside our tolerant, broad, glorious church there is a place for all of God's creation, even our George and his ilk who seem to want to exclude or at least regard as second class — all women or those who do not share his sexual orientation.

Poor George's anti-women, anti-gay platform should be given as much credibility by a responsible press as it finds within his church. Mollie Hance. 35 Brook Hill Woodstock, Oxon OX20 1JE.

OW can God possibly not be masculine? Christ had a divine father and a human mother, indicating his dual divinity and humanity. If the story of the Annunciation is true - at least symbolically. | Stockleigh Pomeroy, if not necessarily in detail — | Crediton, then God the Father and God | Devon EX17 4AX.

earth. The Anglican General Synod is proclaiming heresy when it seeks to eliminate sexually explicit words to de-scribe the deity.

As a supporter of women priests, I have not always agreed with what George Ausheartedly do. David W Lloyd.

17 Fore Street, Harlow. Essex CM17 0AB.

WHY on earth does George Austin assume that the ultimate being has a long willy? Something that con-vinces me God must have a sense of humour is the fact that she never lightningblasts the pompous nitwits who presume to tell her what she is, what she thinks and how she ought to behave.

Amongst those nitwits I include the cohorts of extreme "feminists" who get their cas-socks in a canter over the socalled sexist language of ordi-

nary Christianity.
Unfortunately, since the Reformation, all Protestantism's words and ideas for God have been male. This has resulted in chaps like George Austin coming to the blasphe mous conclusion that God is really just a chap like him.

Calling God "she" or "Sophia" (Greek for wisdom). George, might be silly or it might force a change in our perceptions. I suppose it might also cause imagination blow-out amonest the chaos. but then lack of imagination and commonsense is one reason why the C of E is in such trouble.

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My advice to those who can't bear to sing Praise Him is that they should try writing hymns as excellent and sing-able about the lady God, rather than mutilate fine traditions. Meanwhile, George, calm down. God is big enough for you to praise him and for me to praise her. Patricia Finney.

Briar Cottage. Forth Coth.

Truro, Cornwall TR3 8HJ. AS the Guardian gone quite mad? You print the

fatuous, anachronistic, chauvinistic ramblings of George Austin - with what earthly (or heavenly) justification? Did you think this smug. elitist diatribe was interesting, informative, even amusing? K Bainbridge. Old Schoolhouse

Warning: danger on the line

He should have gone quietly | for the rules of privacy.

people of this country were | South Glamorgan CF6 2AZ.

as the Earl of Snowdon did Geoffrey Howell. later. The royal family and the 4a Beach Road, Penarth

bill lands for track, April 30) that Britain's track was in "no worse a state than five years ago". Only last year Railtrack told the Transport Committee that infrastructure maintenance needed to have been swamped with fur-ther requests to have the unit installed. The only problem be around £800m per year. Last year, the company spent around £100m less than this while planning to spend only £683m a year, on average, over the next five years.

and his production company.

Who cares about the Duke of

Windsor nowadays? He was vain, pleasure-seeking, selfish,

irresponsible and, when he de-

termined to marry a twice-div-

orced American woman, he

was quickly hustled into exile:

the best day's work Stanley Baldwin ever did.

If maintenance spending is falling, investment in replace ments has collapsed. Sir Bob year fewer people have faced Reld, former BRB chairman, giving evidence to the Transport Committee last year, ment of their water bills. In warned that when investment in the infrastructure (track, property, stations etc) drops below £600m, that is "very serious". Yet Railtrack has set aside only an average of £483m a year over the next decade for all infrastructure renewals - nearly £1.2bn less than the 10-year minimum

T WAS with incredulity that Bob. Even worse, in the two I read the comment by Rail-track's Brian Mellit (£200m Railtrack has spent less than £350m per annum on renewals, some £250m below

the walls of Aberdeen Railway

Station, anticipating her arrival". Prince Edward has

done enough damage to the

royal family with his unfortu-

nate resignation from the

Royal Knockout. It is time TV

returned to its former respect

what is necessary.
Our rail network has deteriorated rapidly over the past five years. Railtrack has had no less than 18 Improvement Notices and one Prohibition Notice imposed upon it by the Health and Safety Executive over the past year and a half. We are entering an era of investment by Improvement Notice. Hardly an argument for privatisation. James Knapp. General Secretary, National Union of Rail, Maritime & Transport Workers,

London NW1 2BL. Please include a full postal address, even on e-mailed letters, and a telephone number We may edit letters: shorter ones are more likely to appear. We regret we cannot considered necessary by Sir acknowledge those not used.

Unity House,

Euston Road

A Country Diary

CROOK, CO DURHAM: As | chorus, I recorded a few minsoon as the water warmed up in the garden pond, the frogs emerged. Now four years old, it has a growing frog popula-tion raised from a single orig-inal blob of spawn. Some of the residents will soon be grandparents. On the first day there were five frogs. three days later I counted 19 and within a week there were 30 pairs of golden eyes amongst the duckweed. Males seemed to outnumber females by about six to one, so there was intense competition for a mate. At times the water surface boiled with ardent frog courtship pursuits. I could hear their calls from the other end of the garden — not really croaking, more a kind of steady purr, like quiet moped engines ticking over amongst the bogbean, flotegrass and yellow flag. So I tried an experiment, and turned up at the pondside with a tape recorder. At first they all plunged below the surface, but then resurfaced one by one and renewed their

utes of song, then played it back. Challenged by 30 phan-tom frogs, they fell silent almost instantly. All eyes focused on the tape recorder. Then their white throats swelled and they returned the electronic calls. Finally, apparently fired by aggression or lust, they advanced on the speaker until several were grouped around it, just a few inches away, duetting with the recording. I repeated the experiment three time, with the same results, before I left them in peace. Two days later, silence returned as the frogs dispersed amongst pondside vegetation, leaving a glistening mass of spawn. In the clear, sunlit depths of the pool it is now the turn of the newts to court. Frog courtship is orgiastic - all noise, splash and grappling. Newt courtship is pure grace and elegance - flashes of bright red bellies, sinuous movements and silent embraces. PHIL GATES

Diary

Matthew Norman

YSTERY enshrouds in the romantic life of Andrew Neil. You will recall vigorous efforts of late to find Andrew a wife — efforts for which the bon viveur has affected gratitude. Every day, so he wrote in the Daily Mail, he checks his post for a communication from a Mrs Neil man-quee. I now learn — and why hide the sense of betrayal? that he may have been toying with us; that he may toying with us; that he may have had a girlfriend (or what he, in his PC way, would call a "partner") all along. The Friday before last; a woman called Kate Sissons went to a drinks narty at his South Foreign party at his South Kensing ton bachelor pad, and spent the night in his bed. Miss Sissons is the social editor of OK! magazine, the rival to Hello!, and the suspicion is that Andrew might be purthat Antirew might of pur-suing, through her, his long-held ambition to break into society. "It's true she stayed that Friday night," says my source, "and they were together again the next avaning at an Alfa. next evening at an Alfa Romeo party at the Hur-lingham Club. Some people see them as the Lord and Lady Docker of the age."

seems that Mandy Mandelson may have more work to do explaining his party to the people: the Collins English Dictionary refuses to include the phrase "New Labour" in its new edition on the absurd ground that it doesn't know what it means. "It is not clearly means. It is not clearly enough defined yet," says a spokesman. "If the Labour party won't come up with a definition, we are wary of appearing partisan."
What's wrong with these people? Haven't they read The Blair Revolution? Mandy will resume explain ing the minute he's faxed over the itinerary of his Barclays-sponsored "busi-ness trip" to the Orient.

Narticle predicting the Prime Minister's survival appears in the Telegraph. "The leadership has made mistakes (and how; I treasure my copy of Mr Major's speech on the eve of Black Wednes day denouncing the folly of devaluation)," writes Boris the Jackel Johnson. This seems an odd way for the Conservative candidate for Clwyd South to talk: has no one told him that loyalty is the Tories' secret weapon?
"The Guy'nor's aht," said the Alfie Bass voice when I called. Would you ask him to be more careful, said, and not to compare the Tories' general election prospects to the odds on get-

him what?" said the voice.

"Are you a bleedin' nutter,

CONTRIBUTION to Tuesday's Family Law Bill debate catches the eye. Wife-beating, said Tory MP Andrew Rowe, "is not the only way people desiroy one another. For example, a woman can make great play of the sexnal impotence of her partner." Oo er. "As a result the man moves further into depression . . . In a sense such an act is as violent as hitting someone." Gosh. Mr Rowe's interests in Who's Who include photography and reading, but say nothing of psycho-sexual counselling. yet he seems oddly well informed. "I don't believe in sharing my personal experi ence with the whole country," said Mr Rowe yes-terday, laughing nervously. "I've never hit anybody my-self, but yes, my first marriage broke up. I am iv a sense speaking from per-sonal experience," he added coyly, "but more from what's passed through my surgery. Really . . . " Gosh.

ONGRATULATIONS to Frank Wiechnia of to Frank Wieth han of the Sun, Matt Driscoll of the Daily Star, Steve Curry of the Express, and Graham Nickless of the Mail. All five brought us yesterday's story about Glenn Hoddle and the England job - and all five of them had it exclusively.

PEAKING of Mr Hoddie — one of football's select group of bornagain Christians — this seems the perfect time to dredge up a monster funny (well, funny-ish, ish) aperçu from the football agent Eric Hall. "I was chatting to Glenn a while back, and he said, 'Eric, I found God'. I said, 'But Glenn, what a fan-



White Paper, Protecting

Minor hurricanes that lie in wait

Commentary

Hugo Young

in Washington

EPUBLICANS give Bill Clinton little, and at least 35 per cent of Americans declare they would in no circumstances vote for him. But all agree he's a maestro in one mode: the management of di-saster. When Commerce Secretary Ron Brown's plane crashed into a Bosnian mountain, the President choreo-graphed every detail of the obsequies. Florida hurricanes are his forte. Not only does he command the airwaves, he somehow gets money in-stantly to the stricken com-munities. It's the one area where the Washington bureaucracy can be relied upon to work, which it never did for George Bush. Clin-ton's catch-line is: "I feel your pain." Though uttered often enough to become a kind of joke, this mantra convinces even the leathery cynics of the media that he means it. The same cynics believe Clinton will win a second

scepticism has deserted them.

change. After all, six months ago they said he might be finished. For the moment, swirling fashion dictates that the pundits outdo each other in extravagant contempt for anyone who doubts the President has already won. Resid-

icans give prominent clinomits journal and months. Various kinds of diser of diserce could intervene any months. Various kinds of diserce could intervene any months and months. Various kinds of diserce and months. Various kinds of diserce and months and months. Various kinds of diserce and months and months. Various kinds of diserce and months. Various kinds of diserce and months an

The first is in the courts. The selection of federal judges, culminating in appointments to the Supreme Court, is a prerogative which, though in-vigilated by the Senate, can set a president's stamp on law and morality for decades ahead. The reactionary inher-itance of Resgan and Bush continues in courts from coast to coast, unabated by the Republicans' defeat in 1992. Clinton's appointments, in keeping with his character. have not been extravagantly liberal. But they've begun to restore balance to a judiciary regularly pushing to de-feder-olise the constitution and

the difference would be great. These are not small differences. Add to them the rampant, crusading rightism of a segment of Dole's party, and you have the kind of future for America which a lot of ately to de-rail. There will be a fire behind Clinton which is hardly anywhere to be seen behind the prospect of the Blair Labour Party winning in Britain. But the liberals and others

who want this are becoming easily satisfied. They look for meagre gains. They're led by a man who, insofar as he ever held to principles of liberal-ism, has found it politically essential to betray them. The other day he signed into law a catch-all statute that reduced the meaning of habeas corpus, decreased rights of appeal from gimerack state courts, and stripped away the legal rights of asylum-seek-ers. Under cover of fighting terrorism, Clinton is a willing accomplice to the destruction of constitutional protections for migrants fleeing terrorist regimes. So much for the land of the free, beckening hud-

died masses.

The conservative impulse rules. The balanced budget is an orthodoxy to be propiti-ated whatever the state of the economy. The mistrusting of government has changed status, perhaps conclusively, from a healthy American inroth a healthy American in-stinct to a paralysing Ameri-can obsession. The prince of government reflects this in his rhetoric, and mostly bows to it in his actions too. The cause of moderate interven-tionism may not be entirely lost, but the forces pulling away from it have the upper and longer hand. If they win, Florida hurricanes won't be the only unmet disaster sur-rendered to a Darwinian

How are all these people to

world. And the pain Clinton says he feels will be nothing to America's. After 19 years at the sharp end the criminal justice system, **Vivien Stern** condemns Michael Howard's tatment of offenders as dangerous and destructive Let the ex-cons back in

of society. It might be the case, but I doubt it; the only part of Dr Post's findings which sounded obviously bizarre was a higher than average

What these studies don't really address is the strange usefulness of psychoses to writers. Of course, nobody likes being depressed, or alcoholic, or whatever, no one would consciously choose it. But the involuntary ways of the mind very well might find a depressive temperament

Black dogs behind the typewriter



Philip Hensher

DOCTOR called Felix Post, of the Maudsley Hospital in London, has made some pretty worrying discoveries about the psychologies of writers. If you were thinking of writing poetry, don't you'll probably have a stable marriage but have stable marriage but have severe manic depression. If you're a playwright, you'll almost certainly become an alcoholic with "a problematic or broken marriage". If you're a novelist, you'll die young (76 per cent before the age of 74). and you're more likely than not to have an anxiety depres-sive disorder, springing from what the good doctor calls

what the good doctor calls
"the greater inner turmoil and
neural activity involved in
writing prose". Save yourself
some grief; give up now.
The good news is that poets,
on the whole, do a bit better;
they aren't generally big
drinkers, which is going to
sound pretty surprising to
readers of Dylan Thomas and
Louis MacNeice I always sus-Louis MacNeice, I always sus-pected that poets dired out on the reputation of a few high-profile fast-lifers, and in real-ity happily went to bed early with a cup of cocoa; Goethe is more typical than Rimbaud. But novelists certainly are a lot of old wrecks, according to of of old wrecks, according to Dr Post, depressives like Hemingway, boozers like Fitzgerald, eaten up with self-hatred like Waugh, or frankly, like Dostoevsky, not far from

insanity.
Dr Post's studies are largely based on figures from the past, whose notoriety has partly ensured their survival. So it's difficult to say whether this is a representative sample, or whether novelists now are a far more well-balanced, sober, hard-working bunch of pillars incidence in his study group of "anti-social, histrionic and narcissistic traits". Twenty-three per cent, apparently; it's ing, egotistical, exasperating to live with them. The few ranks of writers, there is as who can't live with the black high a proportion as 77 per cent who don't have these

useful. Writers will generally do anything to avoid writing, there are very few who actu-ally like writing, rather than having written. For some— Dylan Thomas springs to mind — developing a hopeless habit of drink might actually be a way of preventing work, a way of explaining away the terrible dread of writing. These problems do shape

the work of writers, and we'd be wise not to deprecate them too strongly without considering what they contributed to the work. There are some writers whose work was genuinely ruined by their problems, the powelist Particle. lems; the novelist Patrick Hamilton, for instance, was so alcoholic that parts of his last works are barely sketched out tragically stunted as the babies of drunks. One of the greatest of 20th-century novel-ists, Henry Green, was more or less destroyed by drink. But there are others, like Louis MacNeice, who actually seen strengthened by a psychologi-cal problem. MacNeice's late poetry, or the novels of Malcolm Lowry, often seem to have the same exquisite smoothness of transition of a plausible drunkard.

Still more complicated is depression. Of course, some careers are cut tragically short by depression; Sylvia Plath, as Philip Larkin thought, initially in love with a literary fashion until it over whelmed her. But one of the most characteristic features of the depressive is to feel that they deserve to be punished, and to embark, recklessly, on a course of action which will bring about some form of punishment.

ATTRISTS always claim they want to put the world to rights; I wonder whether their strange, depressive temperament doesn't rather want to invite revenge, and confirm their low sense of Waugh, this might well show liself in the gratultous rudeness, the sheer, pig-headed obstinary and unstoppable need to push against the grain. It made many of his contemporaries loathe him; it's exactly what makes most of his read ers adore him.

No, writers aren't normal, and if they became normal they might lose what Juvenal described as a disease, the itch to scribble. And, though many writers do have psychological problems, judged by ordinary standards, and few of them actually like having these cloud which, for many writ ers, constitutes both their burden and their gift, make the headlines; most carry on. And a few grow to value what medical science sees as abnormal-ity, and wouldn't let Dr Felix Post anywhere near them. After all, he might cure them.

Philip Hensher's latest novel is Kitchen Venom (Hamiah Hamilton, £18)



burglars beware — your crimes are being filmed and the police are on to you." Let us all "stamp out crime in car parks". "We want to turn the tables on the criminal." Launching Countrywatch, will it? In the very short the slogan is "Rural crimi true, it might give a breathnals are the weeds in their space to some hard.

nals are the weeds in theirng space to some hardnals are the weeds in their pg space to some hardcommunities. Countrywatchressed communities. But in
is the weed killer". The language of the tablois will surely lead to dangers
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legitimises the fundament of young ill-educated memlegitimises the fundament policy shift pour taking plad ployed men will spand which policy shift now taking place of their youth in prison, ab-contained in the Home Offi tem that is against society, cut off from the mainstream sion as a desirable policy authors claim that smethod—removing more short periods to produce fammethod - removing more short periods to produce fam-employed ill-educated yes liles and then returning per-

from society and locking haps for very long sentences has reduced the US crime up for longer in over- or life. In many communities the prospects of young men going to prison will be greater than their chances of going on to higher education. The num-ber of families with experi-

ence of prison will increase and will become the majority. in some neighbourhoods. The unifying bonds in these neighbourhoods will be those formed in prison. They will be based on shared criminal connections. Will that be a safer world, or a more dan-

Already such developments are taking hold in the United into society are being weak-States. An argument rages ened by allowing the spread about whether having of an indiscriminate climate 1.500.000 people. half of them of contempt for offenders. Offenders (Nacro), where she young black men. in prison whether they be serious or has been Director since 1977

about the prospects for the future crime rate there. A major study carried out by the National Center for Juve nile Justice shows a big increase in violent crime committed by juveniles. Juveniles are now responsible for one out of every five violent crimes.

The Home Office sentencing plans are one dangerous development. They are paralleled by another. Whilst the numbers of the socially excluded grow, the structures that exist to re-integrate them

was Winston Churchill In a famous speech he described the principles that were to form the ethical basis of penal policy for most of this century: "... a constant heart-searching by all charged with the duty of pun-ishment, a desire and eagerness to rehabilitate in the world of industry all those who have paid their dues in the hard coinage of punishment... and an unfaltering faith that there is a treasure, if you can only find it, in the

heart of every man. Where are those principles DOW?

This week Vivien Stern leaves the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (Nacro), where she



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P.O. Box 27, Barnstaple, EX31 1YW,

A piece of the action

harto, who has died of a heart known internationally, but in Indonesia no one doubts the powerful role she has played as confidente and constant adviser to her husband, President Suharto. since he took over the reins of power in 1965. Indeed, her death has cast a shadow over the future of his presidency and may well affect his decision on whether to run for a

seventh term in 1998. While Suharto has always prided himself on his peasant background, Ibu Tien, as she donesia. was born of an aristocratic family connected with the court of Mangkune-gara based in Solo, Central Java. She gave to the marriage an aura of regality, with deep roots in traditional Javaome one of the hallmarks of Suharto's rule.

It was glorification of her family's aristocratic ancestry that lay behind one of her three-tier marble family mau-soleum built at huge expense with military honours on

While she was publicly portrayed as a woman who dedi-cated her life to charitable voted mother and grand-mother, her more enduring reputation is as the matriarch of a family which, in the more than 30 years of Suharto's

ITI Hartinah Su- Ten Percent — a play on her harto, who has name. Tien, which is also the Dutch word for ten. Her charity foundation, Yayasan Harapan Kita, was funded largely from the profits of PT Boga-sari. a flour-milling company. owned by one of Suharto's oldest cronies, Liem Sice Liong. As with all foundations in which she and her husband involved them selves, the true nature of its scrutiny

But it was her involvement in the \$26 million tourist attraction on the outskirts of create in miniature the culinces of the Republic - at the time. Indonesia had not yet unlawfully annexed its "27th province", East Timor — that thrust her into the centre of the first major protest move-ment of Subarto's rule. The first to protest against Indonesia-in-Miniature were the 300 families whose truly mindozed, without compensation, to make way for the project. Noisy protests on the streets and in the press

against what was seen as a waste of resources became so persistent that Suharto felt the need to denounce publicly his wife's detractors, alleging sented a threat to the constitution. There were a number tions that had been set up to fight the project were banned. In 1986, relations between Indonesia and Australia suf-fered a serious setback when

virtually every line of an article in the Sydney business.

By the early 1970s, she was the paper's foreign editor, aiready known as Madame David Jenkins. Headlined



Thinking big . . . the Subartos on a visit to Egypt

"After Marcos, now for the Suharto billions", it focused rounded on her critics. In the past few years, Subusiness interests. According harto's relations with the to a joke doing the rounds at the time, he wrote, she was said to be in the mining business: "That's mine, that's

By the late 1980s, however her role as chief money-grabber for the Suharto family had passed to her daughters and her three sons, none of whom had opted for a mili-tary career. But President Suharto was clearly infuriated by gossip that continued to circulate about her business ventures; during an informal

In the past few years, Su-harto's relations with the armed forces have become increasingly strained. Most appointments to top military positions these days go to offi-cers who have served as loyal

presidential adjutants. Al-

though Suharto still domi-

nates the political landscape

his position at the top has

become very isolated. There is no doubt that, up to the last, it was to his wife that he turned for advice and support and, although she had been in poor health for some time, her sudden death

blow to him. It is widel lieved that her place as side will be taken by his est daughter, Siti Hardi, Rukmana, known as M Tutut, a fabulously rich b exile nesswoman in her own rie His brother Mario formed who also holds a politics the Revolutionary Party (PR) prominent position in t with former participants of government party, GOLKA the two 1944-54 governments But whether she will be at in an attempt to remove the to fill the gap left by bmilitary government at the mother in keeping Subarto Callot box. Defeated in the 1958 an even keel is quite anothelection, Mario died before he

August 23, 1924; died April 25, rsity, left his academic

Julio Cesar Mendez Montenegro

From young idealist to puppet president

dency of Julio Cesar Mendez Montenegro, from 1966-70, was one of the most tragic in that country's sad history. As the only civilian president between 1954 and 1985, he was elected on a programme of democratic reforms. His government, however, marked the start of a barbaric era of military repression only now reaching its conclusion. A discredited alcoholic when he left office, he died from a heart attack,

However, as a brilliant young lawyer Mendez Monte-negro had been a standard bearer for Guatemala's stu-dents. After the overthrow of the dictator Jorge Ubico in 1944 by a reformist military government, he returned to Guatemala from studying in Chile and was chosen to be government, playing a promi-nent role during Guatemala's 10-year equivalent of the Prague spring. When President Arbenz's

reforming government was overthrown by a US-backed coup in 1954, at the height of McCarthyite fears of commu-nism, Mendez Montenegro remained in Guatemala, becoming a respected law profes-sor in the national San Carlos University. It was a difficult period as many of his col-leagues and friends were

ould contest the election of 366. in a suspected assassinguad. Julio Cesar, then a can Siti Hartinah Suharto, born late to be rector of the uni-

eer to fill the breach and

UATEMALA is a fight an electoral campaign country of para-that promised the "Third Goverument of the Revolution" His candidacy even had sup-port from the Guatemalan Communist Party, and he went on to defeat the military's chosen candidate.

Ropes were high for a new period of reforming government in which the army would return to the barracks. However, following his vic-tory at the polls, the presidentelect signed a secret ninepoint pact with the generals, in which he relinquished all real powers of government.

minister in 1968.

Army-directed death squads began a two-year campaign



Montenegro . . . barbaric rule

against trade unionists and suspected communists; hun-dreds of civilian activists and were killed or "disappeared". In rural areas, where the military commanders already held significant powers, a state of siege was declared, and during the four years of Mendez Montenegro's presidency some 10,000 civilians were assessinated in a counter-insurgency campaign aimed at the small guerrilla movement based in the eastern moun

Interference with presiden tial rule not only applied to matters of national security. During his presidency, the army became the central political force within the ruling coalition of military and landat tax reform also failed and, amid threats of a coup, he was forced to dismiss his finance

Historians and former colleagues suspect that Mendez Montenegro was already compromised by the military. What is certainly true is that, once president, he became an impotent puppet. One army captain remembers a military capiain remembers a immary parade where the president was told off like a subordinate by the generals for standing up at the wrong part of the ceremony. This treatment, and his rejection by former friends for betraying the democratic cause, fuelled his drink problems.

drink problems.

The legacy of his presidency was a further 15 years of direct military rule. The three civilian presidents who followed left office equally discredited, unable to use their electoral mandate to limit the powers of a military which had consolidated its political and economic powers. Mendez Montenegro himself took no further office apart from a period in the 1980s as Mexican ambassador.

More than 100,000 Guatema-lans have died in army-led since 1966, in a country with a population of less than 10 mil-lion. As peace talks approach their conclusion and new hope for democracy emerges in Guatemala, the death of the man who became the first ci-vilian president of his genera-tion could, in a new paradox, berald an era of authentic civilian rule. Perhaps this is one reason why the current president, Alvaro Arzú, declared a three-day mourning period for

Patrick Costello

Julio Cesar Mendez Montenegro 1915; died April 28, 1996

Dr Robert Anderson, direc-

Gilles Grangier

Films for the

HE FILMS of Gilles Grangier, who has died aged 84, should disabuse those Anglo-Saxon film-goers who still harbour the notion that French films belong in "art houses" and represent the "intellec-tual" side of the cinema. "I don't work for the cinema-Grangier once said in reply to those who critcised the lack of depth in his pictures, which ranged from comedies to films noirs. Grangier was an excellent

at the service of wonderful actors such as Noel-Noel. above all, Jean Gabin, with whom he became the best of from a similar working-class background, got on famously tation for always being bad tempered and difficult to se. Perhaps Gabin, who had come to embody 'the man of the people" on screen. the display the full range of his mannerisms — his explosions of rage, his flow of matols, and his rugged, not more starting from the mannerisms — his explosions of rage, his flow of matols, and his rugged, not matols, and his rugged not matols, and his rugged not matols, and his rugged not matols, and his rugged, not matols, and his rugged not matols and his rugged not matols. liked Grangier for allowing him to display the full range of his mannerisms — his explosions of rage, his flow of patois, and his rugged, no-



Working-class act . . . Grangier, right, directs Jean Gabin in The Counterfeiters

Grangier worked in a tannery, was a guide for American tourists, and got jobs as an extra and a stuntman in films, prior to becoming an assistant director. During the war, he was wounded and taken prisoner before being released in 1942, when he made his first film as a director for his PoW's co-operative. His bigger movies came in the 1950s, a commercially healthy but artistically stagnant period of French cinema. There were two good films noir starring Gabin — Le

prize in Berlin for Archimede | for Gabin, Fer for Fernandel) le Clochard/The Magnificent Tramp (1958). Relishing playing a crusty old tramp, he wrecks a bar in order to spend the winter in jail, gets in-volved with dog-stealing and has various altercations with the rich. In Le Cave se Rebiffe/ The Counterfeiters (1961), a compact comedy-thriller, crisply directed by Grangier Gabin was a professional forger, persuaded to come out of retirement to run a racket. Grangier again revealed his

they asked Grangier to direct their first production, L'Age Ingrat/The Awkward Age, in which they co-started. With the dying of the cinema du papa in the face of the nouvelle vague, Grangier began making fewer films, finally going over to the still conservative state television. When a journalist suggested to Grangier that "popular"
French directors like him
would be reassessed one day,
he replied, "I don't give a

Ronald Bergan Gilles Grangier, film director born May 5, 1911; died April 25.

damn for posthumous glory."

David Ashton Hill writes: I read with sadness of the death. of Arthur Morton (obituary, April 29), having known him through my father since they served together on the Board of the NSPCC.

Arthur Morton played David Ashton Hill writes:

down his wisdom and considerable understanding of people, and attributed his for-tune in life to an innate sense joined the Missions to Seamen, he was very concerned about how he would be received as a green cleric the Mate School of Art. received as a green cleric among such a tough group of men. At his first posting, he course architects in the was sent by the officers to county. quell a fight. As he entered the tavern into the thick of the fight, a sandbag was dislodged from the first-floor landing and it polesked the largest seaman in the fight. and the holder of the heavy-weight title, immediately in front of Arthur. No one saw the sandbag fall, only the fallen giant. The fight was quickly dispersed. Arthur attributed the respect he was given by the Navy from that moment on to this incident.

One Sunday lunchtime, Arthur had just completed a round of golf and was sur-prised to find the clubhouse While my father was buying a round, Arthur was amused to discover a "one-armed bandit" — a novelty and the reason for the crush. He put in his sixpence, pulled the handle, and was delighted to win the jackpot. As he tried to

Arthur Morton worked tire-lessly to fight injustice and cruelty wherever he found it. Under Paine, the tool also pioneered the idea a year's practical training part of 18, 1996

bert Paine

lesign built **a** education

BERT PAINE, who the course — an idea eventu-as died aged 88, will ally adopted by the RIBA. incipally be remem- Paine retired as head in 1974. ere the founder of archi where out together the first

The ant of war and Margate's tegic importance put an eo the course as the town ned part of a restricturea. Paine was redeplo and initially started (see in architec-ture at b Canterbury and Rochesterlleges of Art. In the end, I was considered too ambit; and a single course wasveloped at Canterbury. Itartime, it was boused on imperfloor of a former pular by 1948 a prefabricate-hool was built as part of city's reconstruction afaze blitz.

This was animistic time

handle, and was delighted to win the jackpot. As he tried to stem the cascade of coins, he was heard to bellow. "That will teach them to gamble on Sundays!"

Paine's counat Camerbury always so to make use of the facili of an art college, and evally was the only course England which still retain that link.

and later helped set un school in Saudi Arabia. Paine was also a practising

architect, and in 1952 set up a eractice with vounger colleagues from the school. Their first building a shop for David Greig in Canterbury, was given a folded concrete roof only 21/2 inches thick, designed by the engineers Ove Arup. Meant to suggest the pitched roofs of old Canterbury without being a copy of them, it was given a Grade II listing. Robert's interests within architecture and the environ ment were extensive. He served as president of the South East Society of Architects in the 1950s, the RIBA Council, and well after his retirement he was still serving on several committees of the Architects Registration larly concerned with the pres-sure being exerted on the

Kentish Stour and its surroundings by gravel extrac tion. For many years, he lived in the Cinque Port village of Fordwich and for a time was its mayor. He contributed several studies to a village his tory. He leaves a son and a daughter.

Michael Cruz

Robert William Paine, architec born March 26, 1908; dled April

hicles, or telephones.

peared quite by magic one

year. I'm sure this one is yours

She is 10 going on 21. She came

from a bad trip in the sixties.

beads, sandals, and hair that

She wears tie-dyed clothes,

Birthdays

tor, British Museum, 52: Theodore Bikel, actor, 72: The Rt Rev Bruce Cameron. Bishop of Aberdeen and Ork-ney, 58; Sir Hugh Cortazzi, orientalist, 72; Elleen Cos-tello, legal administrator, 43; Jon Foulds, chairman, Halifax Building Society, 64; Sir Campbell Fraser, former chairman, Scottish Television, 73: Dr Patrick Hillery former president of Ireland, 73; Engelbert Humperdinck, singer, 60; Clive Jen-kins, trades unionist, 70; Prof Michael Kaser, economist, 70; Brian Lara, crick-eter, 27; Dr Malcolm Lipkin, composer, 64; Elaine McDonald, ballerina, 53; Peggy Mount, actress, 80; Lynda Myles, film producer, 49; John Neville, actor, 71; Dawn Primarolo, Labour MP, 42: Dame Nancy Snagge, former director, WRAF, 90; Dr Benjamin Spock, childcare specialist, 3; David Suchet, actor, 50; Alan Titchmarsh, horticulturist and broadcaster, 47; Jimmy White, snooker player. 34; Lord Justice Woolf, prison reformer, 63.

Death Notices

Births

Jackdaw



Top lies

SCOT ADAMS satirises corporote America - when it does not satirise itself. Here he is, writing in Fortune: For your convenience, I have compiled and numbered the most popular management lies of all time. I do this as a service to the business community. Now when you are telling a story about the treachery of your managers, you can simply refer to each lie by its number,

for example. "She told us No. 6 and we all went back to our

cubicles and laughed." This

that can be channeled into

whining about your co-

1. "Employees are our most 2. "I have an open-door policy.

3. "You could earn more money under the new plan. 4. "We're reorganising to bet ter serve our customers 5. "The future is bright." 6. 'We reward risk-takers."

8. "We don't shoot the 9. "Training is a high

7. "Performance will be

in, "I haven't heard any rumours. "We'll review your performance in six months. 12. "Our people are the best." 13. "You're imput is important

It is not always easy to tell the difference between a scurrilous management lie and ordinary nitwitism. When confronted with an ambiguous situation, you can usually sniff out the truth by using a handy method I call the "What Is More Likely Test?"... An example will be useful. Let's say your boss has broken desk chair and there's no money left in the budget to replace it. is it more likely that

your boss would: (a) Sit on the floor until the next oudget cycle

chair, despite the lower status it confers on the sitter. (c) Postpone filling a job opening in the group, distribute the work to the "most valuable assets", and use the saving to buy a proper chair. As employees we like to think

we are more valuable than the office furniture. But the "What Is More Likely" test indicates that it's not the case. Realistically, we're someplace toward the lower end of the office-supply hierarchy.

One to one

It is not a great idea to assassi-nate the leaders of enemy states. You may get somebody worse as a replacement. But if you insist on such a course of action, Robert A. Pipe, author of Bombing To Win: Air Power And Coercion In War, is your man. Here he is, in the **International Her**ald Tribune, explaining the de mise of Dzhokar Dudayen: Trying to assasinate leaders from the air is not a viable strategy for two reasons. First it is

difficult to locate the leaders. According to the Interfax news agency, the Russians had tried four times to kill Mr. Dudayev.
Apparently, what made the difference this time was trick-

ery, not Tom Clancy technology. According to the Russian newspaper Izvestia, Mr Du-dayev died while telephoning an aide to King Hassan II of Morocco who had been asked by President Yeltsin to help mediate an end to the war. Will any leader ever again be so guilible?

As soon as the call started, all the Russians needed to do was to work out the position of Dudayer's cell phone and get the laser-guided missiles to home in on it and him. Excuse me, my phone's ringing . . .

Taxing times

The following is a letter sent to the US Inland Revenue Services during disputes about depen-dents, exemptions and credits. Dear Sirs, I am responding to your letter denying the deduction for two of the three dependents I claimed on my 1994 Federal Tax return. Thank you. I have questioned whether these are my children or not for years. They are evil and expen sive. It's only fair that since they are minors and not my responsibility that the governsuspicions about this in ment (who evidently is taxing me more to care for these waifs) knows something about them and what to expect over

the next year. You may apply

next year to reassign them to

that you will now be respon-

sible for that little expense. . .

Kristen also has a boyfriend.

Oh joy. While she possesses all

of the wisdom of the universe.

her alleged mother and I have

felt it best to occasionally

remind her of the virtues of

overwhelming passion, safe

abstinence, and in the face of

sex. This is always uncomfort-

me and reinstate the deduction

This year they are yours! The oldest, Kristen, is now 17. She is brilliant. Ask her! I suggest you put her to work in your offfice where she can answer people's questions about their returns. While she has no formal training, it has not seemed to hamper her knowledge of any other subject you can name. Taxes should be a breeze; next year she is going **CANCER** to college. I think it's wonderful

Fortune . . . lie detection

able and I am quite reed you will be handling in the Patrick is 14. I've hay

February I was awake at three in the morning boolic officer who was bringing home . . In the future vid you like him delivered te local IRS office? Kids at rill do almost anything on a e. His hair is purple. Permant dye, temporary dye, what_{he} big deal? Learn to deal wit Oh yes, he and all of his fris

> looks like Tiny Tim's. Fortunately you will be raising my taxes to help offset the pinch of her remedial reading courses. Hooked On Phonics is expensive so the schools dropped it. Good news! You can buy it yourself for half the amount of the deduction that you are denying! It's quite obvious that we were terrible parents (ask the other two) so they have helped raise this one to a new evel of terror. She cannot speak English. Most people under 20 under

tand the curious patois she ishioned out of valley girlsnows in the hood/reggae/yup-le/ political doublespeak. I

11

have raging hormones. This is the house of testosterone and it don't . . . Bring a truck when you come to get her, she sort of "nests" in her room and I think will be much more peaceful that it would be easier to move when he lives in your home. DO NOT leave any of them unsuthe entire thing than find out pervised with girls, explosives, inflammables, inflatables, vewhat it is really made of. You dealed two of the three exemptions so it is only fair you Heather is an alien. She slid through a time warp and apget to pick which two you will

youngest, I still go bankrupt with Kristen's college but then I am free! If you take the two oldest then I still have time for counseling before Heather becomes a teenager.

If you take the two girls then won't feel so bad about putting Patrick in a military academy. Please let me know of your deci-

take. I prefer that you take the

sion as soon as possible as I have already increased the withholding on my W-4 to cover the \$395 in additional tax and make a down payment on an airplane.

Yours Truly, Bob

Jackdaw wants your jewels. E-mail jackdaw @guardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, Lundon ECIR 3ER.

Desmond Christy

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Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finante Guardian

Labour says sale is a 'cynical misuse of national resources' and calls for Stock Exchge inquiry

25pc return on Railtrack

port secretary, who described the sale as a "cynical misuse of national resources", wrote to John Kemp-Welsh, chair-

Sarah Ryle

Hopes for

rate cut as

OPES of an immi-

nent interest rate cut

grew last night after a survey of factory s showed that Britain's

manufacturing sector has de-

clined for the third month in

City analysts warned that

the sector is bordering on recession and said that the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke,

now had the ammunition to

persuade the Bank of England that a cut in base rates was

Tory backbenchers watch-

ing the results of today's local

elections were expected to

step up pressure on Mr

Clarke to reduce the base rate

from 6 per cent to boost spending power and so aid

the Bank of England showing

that consumer credit rose by

£700 million in April, and fig-

ures from the British Bank-

ers' Association showing the

largest quarterly rise in land-

ing since 1991, yesterday's snapshot of factory activity

suggested that only some

embarked on significant

sharpest drop in new orders since October 1992, when Brit-

Purchasing and Supply.

Factories reported the

recovery.

parate data from

Conservative fortunes.

needed to boost demand.

output slips

ABOUR yesterday called on the Stock Exchange to investigate "serious connear £2 billion sale of Railitrack as it emerged that investors could secure a 25 percent return on shares in the year running up to a general election.

Clare Short, shadow transport secretary, who described the sale as a "cynical misuse of national resources", wrote

structural or mechanical failure and extreme weather man of the exchange, detail-ling ways in which Railtrack's alty payments and seriously prospectus could mislead po-affect Railtrack's profitabil-

factory activity, including

output, orders, prices and em-

ployment. There has been no

significant growth for a year.

Nikko economist Simon Briscoe said: "The survey is

very weak and weaker than

expected. It shows no signs of the hope for recovery. There is no chance that base rates will rise in the month shead,

so the balance of probability is now that the next move will

UBS economist Alex Garrard said: "Faced with a man-

ufacturing sector stuck in the

doldrums, few signs of a pick

up in key export markets, and

the prospect of further sub-trend GDP growth to come, the Chancellor has plenty of ammunition with which to

push for a further rate cut. And the widespread govern-

ment losses expected in

will only serve to fuel back-

bench pressure on the Chan-

The prices element of the

PMI was the lowest since the

survey began in July 1991.

reinforcing the view that in-

flationary pressure is weak. But the gulf between manu-

facturers producing high street goods and other pro-ducers continued to grow.

Consumer demand meant

stocks fell as sales rose faster

Evidence that the US econo

cellor to deliver."

than production.

mate owner.

Disclosure notices were

the shares. Traders specu-lated that Capel was intend-

ing to place the stake and

concern to the Trade and

Industry Secretary, Ian

Lang, about the incertainty

tential investors by omitting and distorting vital information on the company's finanmight far exceed those quoted rights from the Department of the company's finan-

Railtrack's advisers have calculated that the first year's return will be 25 per cent because of the 569 million sweetener the Government is pay-ing for the year to March 1996, when Ralltrack was state-owned. The net final dividend works out at 13.75p, navable in October and there payable in October, and there will also be an interim dividend during Railtrack's first year as a public company. From parliamentary answers. Labour's transport co-ordinator, Glenda Jackson claimed that the cost of priva-tising Railtrack was likely to exceed the value of the com-

ment of Transport show that the taxpayer spent £2.66 billion, including the debt write-off of £900 million. Ms Jackson described Sir George as "the Arthur Daley of the transport industry for selling off assets that are the property of the British tax-

payer".
Sir George confirmed that the Government was selling 100 per cent of Railtrack, and that shares would cost between 350p and 390p, with 500 million shares being of-fered to the market. At least 30 per cent will be sold to the public, although the propor-tion could be increased.

By contrast with City instit Unless the initial enthusitutions, private investors with of potential investors is receive a 10p-a-share dibt reflected in actual applicount, worth £20 on the minations for shares, the City mum purchase of 200 sharespects the flotation to raise Ordinary investors will pletween £1.7 billion and between £40p and 380p af£1.8 billion. their discount, which wasked whether the sale reduce the first instalm would be a good deal for paspayment from 200p to 190p sengers. Sir George said it The 16-day bookbuild struck a good balance beperiod starts today. Dut tween the interests of the taxthis period. SBC Warburg payer, shareholders and pas-Government's plabal and the same structure.

Founder's wife

as she boots

the chemists

Jan King

pockets £13.5m

MARILYN Lloyd, the wife for Lloyds Chemists' founder and chairman Allen

Lloyd, yesterday scooped £13.5 million after selling her complete stake in the

company, In a statement, Lloyds

Chemists said Mrs Lloyd had sold her entire holding of 3 million shares in Lloyds at

this period, SBC Warburg Government's global co The Liberal leader, Paddy Ashdown, commented: "The Government has undervalued nator, is visiting the Un States and Europe to disc the degree of internation railways. It is now undervalu-

terest. Initial response US is said to be good. Individual investors a until May 15 to apper shares and listing of the

ing Railtrack.
"It undervalues the importance the British people put on a decent, nationally intepany will take place

Notebook

Clarke brushes sceptics aside



Mark Milner

HE Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, is a robust politician. Certainly he was in fine form yesterday in front of the Treasury select commit-tee, which includes arch Euro-sceptic Nicholas

Mr Clarke told the committee was an economic issue, not a political one. The rising tide of Euro-scepticism, with its overtly political agenda, risked leading Britain towards isolationism.

Not everyone agrees with Mr Clarke's analysis, of course. For many on the Euro-sceptic wing of his party the move to a single currency undermines British sovereignty and should be resisted on those terms. To put it crudely: why should British

Mr Clarke might be able to

450p a time, "solely with a view to diversifying her However, the sale raised eyebrows in the City, since Lloyds Chemists is currently bids from Britain's Unichem and Germany's Gehe — both of which have been referred to the Monopolies and Merg-ers Commission.

Particularly surprising was the price at which Mrs Lloyd sold, which was well below Unichem's 497p and Gehe's 500p bids. During a market raid on Lloyds made before the MMC referral, Unichem snapped up a 9.9 per cent

stake in the chemists - paying around 497p a time. Mrs Lloyd, who is in her early 40s, married Mr Lloyd in 1972. The following year. Mr Lloyd sold the couple's bouse, car and furniture to finance their chemist's shop, at Polsworth, near Warwick — with Mrs Lloyd doing the

She stayed with the company as it grew into Britain's second biggest chemists chain, latterly working as a buyer at the group's head office, and only retired late last vear.

Mr Lloyd pledged last night to retain his 6.1 million shares in the company until after the MMC has published

European monetary union.

interest rates be set in Frank-furt, for example?

shrug off such arguments by pointing to the pooling of sov-ereignty when Britain joined the United Nations or signed up for membership of Nato. Unfortunately for the Chan-cellor, the Conservative Euro-

sceptics are not alone in put ting monetary union at the top of the political agenda. Many of Britain partners in Europe do so too. For them, the whole European idea is aimed at closer integration and the security that is per-

ceived to bring.

There are those in Europe, who will point to what has happened in the former Yugoslavia in recent years and adduce that as evidence that

tensions will never resppear. Mr Clarke may find their ideas harder to dismiss than those of the little Englanders on his own back benches. But those in Europe who want to see a single currency only as a means to an end would do well to listen to him, even if they disagree. Throughout the history of the European Union, political objectives have often been easier to pursue by economic means.

While there may be more to monetary union than economics, such a union will never work if the economics are is nored. That was the mistake rate mechanism in 1992.

Stag-hunt delight

THE Government's plans to privatise Railtrack look to be drawing towards a predictable conclusion. The Opposition parties are outraged; for them the sale is the worst of all worlds. The prospectus may mislead potential investors, claims Labour, which also reckons that the costs of the sale are more than the proceeds. In other words the Government is effectively having to pay to have Railtrack taken away.

Equally predictably the Transport Secretary claims rail travellers, shareholders and taxpayers will all benefit. worlds, according to Sir George Young. Anyone who thinks anything else is simply

One group unlikely to be muddled is made up of private investors. According to Sir George almost two million people have registered an in-terest in buying shares. Hardly astonishing. Over the long years of the privatisation programme small investors have learnt that the Government and its advisers look to price their wares at a level which (market meltdown apart) will provide a tidy pre-mium on early dealings. Certainly the Government, which is still looking to sell British Energy, cannot afford a flop this time round.

On such a pile 'em high, sell 'em cheap basis, the toughest decision small investors are likely to have to make is whether to stag the issue im-mediately or hang on for the interim dividend which could

offer a 25 per cent yield. Such prospective profits may provide comfort for investors caught by routine rail delays or stuck behind lorries carrying loads that might, with a better network, have gone by train. It is scarcely the foundation of a coherent transport policy.

Illusionists' train

sale of Railtrack adds many to the roll call of private investors the Government can claim that its privatisation programme has done much to promote the idea of a shareholding democracy. The number of individ-ual, as opposed to institu-tional, investors has risen from three million in 1979 to around 10 million today.

Unfortunately for the ernment that is only half the story. The percentage of shares held by private individuals has fallen from more than 28 per cent of the total in 1981 to barely above 20 per cent today.

The Government's other great idea of promoting a property-owning democracy also has its uncomfortable side. As the Guardian's economics advisory panel points out today, Britain's long neelected private rented housing sector is undergoing ething of a renaissance.

One reason is a fall in house prices, which has lowered the entry costs for those wishing to become landlords. The second, powerful, influence is the growth in job inse-curity — known to, and en-couraged by, the Government under the banner of labour market flexibility.

Worries about redundancy have made people rejuctant to make the long-term commitment required for taking out a mortgage. Nor are short-term employment contracts, another manifestation of job insecurity, exactly the sort of thing which has the average mortgage lender in raptures. In the housing market, as in the stock market, government claims are not always quite what they seem.

'Come clean' call to Saudi investors

rate mechanism, according to my is strengthening emerged the Chartered Institute of last night as the index of lead-

third fall in a row of the over- | in a row, the first consecutive

all Purchasing Managers' In- | monthly gain in 18 months.

urchasing and Supply.

This was a key cause of the in March for the second month

Business Correspondent

IRECTORS of the National Grid yester-day moved to uncover the intentions of a shadowy Saudi Arabian investment group which may take con-trol of a £400 million stake in the firm. Finance director John

Uttley said that Section 212 disclosure notices had been served on Olayan Group, its equity investment arm Crescent Holdings, brokers HSBC James Capel and conglomerate Hanson.

Hanson sold a 12.5 per cent stake in the Grid to cent stake in the Grid to longer had any interest in the Stake. Amid market speculation about future ownership of the stake, the broker dis closed that it had "hedged the market risk" of the holding by entering into a derivatives contract with Olayan, an Athens-based group controlled by one of the world's richest men, Suliman Saleh Olayan.

Mr Uttley said the Grid was seeking information from Olayan about its intentions. He admitted the board was "baffled" about the nature of the deriva-

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS Australia 1.8450 France 7.53 Belgrum 45.90 Canada 2.00 Cyprus 0.6920 Hong Kong 11.44 India 52.14 Ireland 0.9375 mmark 8.66 Israel 479

New Zealand 2, 1325 New Zealand 2, 1325 Nerway 9,65 Portugal 230.00 Saudi Arabia 5.61 USA 1.47

Singapore 2,0625 South Africa 6,31 Turkey 107.587

switched on 10pm cuppa DISCLOSURE that the elec-tricity system recently tives deal, which Capel refused to clarify. Mr Uttley said the group

came close to collapse for a was "going through the normal channels" in seekfourth time forced the ing "sensible information" needed by its shareholders day that the number of 'major events" was increas-The investment record of ing for the first time in 15 the Saudi group implied years, writes Chris Borrie. System managers were one that it might hold the shares for the long term, step away from ordering blackouts after the interconshould it emerge as the ultinector with France collapsed

served on James Capel and Hanson on Tuesday, and on came just before 10pm. The Grid said the emer-Olayan and its subsidiaries gency coincided with a 400MW "TV pick-up" when viewers put on their kettles after Call Red, a drama about helicopter-borne medics. yesterday. The broker said yesterday the stake was owned by its market-making arm. Hanson said it no

Reading, Berkshire, wanted to call on the Welsh pump storage power station to make Grid shares last night closed 5p down at 199p. Hanson sold its shares at good the shortfall, but it was 192p a share. Industry unavailable. Frequency fell sources said yesterday's fall indicated there was litbelow statutory limits, from 50 Hertz to 49.03 Hertz, and tle institutional demand for the Grid ordered a voltage cut. The next step is to cut power altogether. using the Saudi group to hedge the risk. The Grid said it had not expressed

power was restored within 15 minutes. Only a "faint dimming" of lights would have been noticeable. The Grid was close to order-

John Scott yesterday said that talks were under way to nels with TransCo, which supplies gas to power stations, to give forewarning stations. set up communication chanof problems.

Grid teetered £1m-a-dy bank rip-off

ian Wylie

the International Trade and Industry Ministry in Tokyo

BANKS and building societies are short-changing their customers by £1 million a day by delaying cheques from clearing, according to a report published today by the Consumers' Association (CA).

On gnardi . . . Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto swi a bamboo sword at

on February 19. The loss of the 1,000 megawatt supply

The Grid control room at

A Grid official said full

ing blackouts last July 19, and in November and January. National control manager

dn the money markets.

nks and building societ receive the money from ques paid in on the third king day, but only two ks — the Royal Bank of tland and Ulster Bank bw current account cusners to withdraw the cash

the same day.

The survey claims that by Some banks and building making current account cus cieties permit withdrawals tomers wait four or five days fier four days, but the report for cheques paid-in to clear/ccuses Abbey National, banks and building societies ank of Scotland, Barclays, are quietly earning up to two ritannia, Clydesdale, Northdays extra interest on ever-ern Rock, TSB and the Wool-basse. The CA estimatewich of making customers cheque. The CA estimate wich of making customers of cheques at the banks and building societi wait five working days. Cussit on more than \$5 billio tomers paying in cheques to a worth of cheques every da Cheltenham & Gloucester in the should.

mbg an extra £1 million a | savings account have to wait 13 days before they can withdraw their money. While some banks and building societies start pay-

ing interest on cheques on the third working day, the survey found Britannia, Clydesdale, Nationwide, Northern Rock and the Woolwich delaying interest payments until the fourth day. Abbey National and Birmingham Midshires wait five days before paying interest on savings accounts. The CA says some banks are also falling short of their claims. According to the survey, more than three-quarters of cheques at Lloyds and NatWest clear a day later

Friendly societies revived

Martyn Halsall new life for the Victorian self-helpers

INANCIAL servi ex-ecutives whose fibears kept deceased inhara out of paupers' gra and provided "travellinfelief" for itinerant works last night celebrated the rival of the friendly socie move-

Moves by both mer politic

foundations named in all seri- | as building societies shed this ousness as the Druids Friendly and the Universal Brotherhood of Speculative Mechan-

Last night, the 100,000 mem ber Independent Order of Odd Fellows - later re-christened the Manchester Unity Friendly Society — re-launched its social provision package on May Day in the Northern capital's People's History Mu-

Around 300 friendly societies have between 10 and 12 million members, many unaware of the provision left to

them years ago.

The friendly societies are also stressing their mutuality - ploughing back excess in- rescuing members from ness for pragmati ictorian | come to benefit members - burial in a paupers' grave.

birthright through increasing amalgamations into banks. The friendly societies' historic marriage of social provi-sion and financial services is credited with inspiring the formation of the Welfare

The 186-year-old Manchester Unity, which has assets of £125 million and more than 175 lodges, last night amalgamated a range of traditional benefits into a £15 a year package, covering poten tial benefits ranging from dental treatment to educa-

tional awards. However, the society longer commits itself to funds

US papers come under threat as Microsoft puts news on the Web charge users subscription

Mark Trun in New York

MICROSOFT is to take on America's top newspapers by rolling out its on-line MSN news service on to the World Wide Web where it will be available free to all-comers.

It is throwing down the gauntiet to Web-based news services operated by papers like the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal, which unveiled its interactive edition on Monday. The Journal's edition has continually updated

fees for access to news. Mi-crosoft will charge for its other offerings, such as its eagerly awaited online news magazine, Slate, due to appear in the summer. Microsoft expects to make money for advertis-ers if the news service be-

comes popular with Internet surfers. It can afford to absorb any losses on its free news service as it establishes a grip on the news market. 'This is quite threatening to news-papers," said a Journal edi-tor. "Microsoft can afford news 24 hours every day.

The Times and the Jourits free service and then to wipe out everybody with nal now charge or plan to | charge later."

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12 FINANCE AND ECONMICS

Wise . Women

Prices are at a four-year high, but people feel more at home renting than buying. Our allwoman panel of economists asks what that means for the Chancellor



ger thriven ont-row 'A strong housing market may be a vital element of an election campaign, but it is not a prerequisite of economic growth'

'Job insecurity has made people wary of committing themselves to the long-term obligation of mortgage interest payments, let alone the responsibility of repaying large sums of capital'

'Buying makes a lot of sense provided that the main motive for house purchase is providing a roof over your head'

Building slowly . . . First-time buyers are back in the market and brickies back on site, but an Eighties-style boom is unlikely

The world turned upside down

was almost non-existent. Now people want to rent.

As the supply of private rental property has failed to keep up with the booming demand, private sector rents have soared. There are few bidders for the stock of properties for sale, so prices now average little more than three times average earnings.
This switch from purchase

to renting has produced a market that is ripe for inves-tors in private rental property: purchase is cheap and rents are high. How has this

Job insecurity has been a powerful influence on the housing market in recent years. Government figures put redundancy rates at be-1990, so the majority of workers will have — at the very least — seen friends or colleagues lose their jobs at some point during those years. And many may have themselves faced redundancy. In some sectors, people no

longer expect job security. In-

selves to the long-term obliga-tion of mortgage interest pay-ments. Let alone the responsibility of repaying large sums of capital. Mortgage interest rates are

Another factor is the de-

tween 10 and 20 per cent since | the last recession, with its | age level of private sector wave of redundancles which affected middle class home owners, house prices rose to an all-time high. Prices in 1989 were the highest they had ever been, even allowing for inflation.

The resulting readjustment in prices was painful for the last of those that jumped on to stead, they envisage a work- last of those that jumped on to ing life with patches of unem- the housing bandwagon. They ployment, retraining and a will not forget in a hurry the

how lower than they have been for many years making home loans relatively cheap. But the memory of the high rates of the early 1990s and the inescapable possibility of higher artes at some point in higher rates at some point in the future make people un-willing to take on a mortgage

rented property, or even the rent that could be charged. Landlords did not view reni assessments as fair or even The lack of a secure way of

maintaining rents at levels that cover costs and give a reasonable profit, led to a dearth of private rental prop-erty. The 1988 Housing Act brought in Assured Shorthold Tenancies. These guaranteed the right of the landlord to repossess the property at the and of the tenancy. As we have seen, job inse-

Another factor is the decreasing likelihood of state curity and negative equity support to help with mortgage interest payments in the event of job lose.

Then there is the risk of negative equity. Just before the less received with the less received w rents to soar.

The latest official figure is around 30 per cent — up on the figure for 1983. This fact. combined with the increased security for landlords of the 1988 Act, has turned the private rental sector into a highly lucrative investment.

Penelope Rowlatt

HE housing market has turned upside down over the past few years. In the mid-1980s people did not want to rent, they wanted to buy. Owner-occupiers paid an average of four times their income for a house or flat, and the private rental market was almost non-existent. Now the construction of different occupations, the mobility they need to mobility they need is enhanced by renting rather than buying accommodation. In fact, most people made redundant get another job within three to five months. Despite this, the general ethos in security of tenure to tenants. Until 1980, there was no way that a UK landlord could be confident about access to rented property, or even the n longer offers licid gold

O ost people living come and cannot be passed in UK today their on to later generations ho is their largest financieset. More than half thepulation is also building pension funds, either ough occupational pons or through personal sions. But in relation the value of their hou_{hese} generally are mode

As this ricular personal assess has grown in significe (two-thirds of housen are owner. occupied), niion has fo-cused on use prices. see their masset shrinking in value.

This asset as is quite different frozpension. A pension is a sam of in-

on to later generations — only to a spouse or other specified dependant; then it dies with the dependant. A house is an asset that

can form part of an inheri-tance — what the Prime Minister called "wealth cascading down the genera cascating town the general tions". So any threats to its value, or any calls on it for other purposes, weaken its general value as an asset class in a personal invest-ment portfolio. In recent months not only

cused on use prices. have house prices fallen, but there has also been a years after harp rise so individuals households practice of setting all asses their measurements are processed as year. The net gathering signs of life.

Putting all the eggs into So far, the Chancellor has shown himself to have acted in the best interest of the percentage points. sets, including the house, against the charges for long-term residential care

troduce new financial vehicles to permit some of the equity locked into the housing asset to increase the infing asset to increase the income stream of pensioners have generally failed. The risk/reward ratio has been for Clarke to put unattractive to buyers and the Inland Revenue has not reacted favourably to the schemes. A house is, therefore, not generally a liquid

With the drop in house prices and the reduction of the level of inflation a house no longer seems to be a preferable asset class to the individual. Yet the income-to-price ratio has not been so favourable for many years.

Buying makes sense pro-vided that the main motive for purchase is the instrumental one of providing a roof over one's head. The expectation of the house as

people for a few years when the market was booming.

the labour market signifi-

In recent years, as struc-

tural changes in the mortgage

market have increased mort-

gage lenders' access to long-term, wholesale funding,

there has been a move towards fixed-rate mortgages. In 1994, fixed-rate mort-

gages reached a peak of more

than 60 per cent of net lend-ing. As borrowers become less vulnerable to changes in

short-term interest rates, this

will erode one of the key ways

Ann Robinson

to ease monetary policy or whether interest rates should be put on hold. When Mr Clarke first start-ed to cut base rates in Decem-ber 1996 there were undoubt-edly worrying signs about the

HE question that now faces the Chancellor,

vhether he should continue

state of economy, with a significant stock overhang, a sharp slowdown in exports and little in the way of evithe prime financial asset of dence of a pick-up in domestic a family is probably not demand. But now there are

> should it prove necessary to raise interest rates to protect the Government's inflation objective, he cannot shy away from this - even in an election year - without severely

damaging the credibility of UK policy makers. Although the outlook for inflation in the near term is benign, there are still potential threats to the Government's inflation objective. Were the economy to grow at an annualised rate of 3-4 per cent, as we expect, over the second half of this year and into 1997 it is likely that the spare capacity in the scono-my will be eliminated by the

end of 1997. Some sectors of the labour market would also be near levels of tightness that might prompt higher wage inflation. While inflation is not a problem in the near term and may even fall again, we feel much less confident about next year. As a result, we believe it right for the authorities to

move away from the policy of gradual easing and put policy on hold. If we are correct, it is likely that the authorities will have to consider tightening policy at some point. While this may not appeal to the Chancellor's political in-stincts, failure to do so would eopardise credibility.

There are a range of rea-sons behind our growth expectations, led by domestic sonal sector finance demand. Retail sales, flat in course of this year. the 12 months to September 1995, rose at an annualised rate of almost 3 per cent over

the last three months. The housing market has also picked up. House prices have risen by 3 per cent over the last six months and the industry has reported a significant increase in activity. This now

seems to be feeding through into manufacturing. There should be income growth boosted by a number of elements in 1996. The most obvious of these is tax cuts with a £3 billion giveaway this year contrasting mark-edly with the £5 billion of tax increases last year. The net

Another key element boosting real income growth is the relative movement of price and wage inflation. In 1995,

The authors are members of the Guardian's Economics

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Advisory Panel. Marian Bell is a Treasury economist at the Royal Bank of Scotland: Bronu yn Curtis is executive director of economics Deutsche Bank; Dr Penelope Rowlatt is a director of National Economic Research Associates and Dr Ann Robinson is head of the National Association of Pension Funds. Copies of the full report -

available from Guardian marketing on 0171 239 9696

price inflation rose sharply in comparison to wage inflation but we expect the reverse this year. Average earnings gain is likely to rise from the current 3.5 per cent level while the Bank of England projects underlying inflation to fall from almost 3 per cent to around 2.25 per cent by year

If we add to these two effects the additional stimulus from lower mortgage payments and the variety of one-off windfalls (ranging from Tessa interest payments to building society payouts) there is a clear boost to personal sector finances over the

Bronwyn Curtis

Growth without boon and bust

campaign, but it is a pre-requisits for homic growth. The old relaships between monetarplicy. being broken down.

ceded by, strong ecmic growth, particularly consumer spending. It halso tended to precede retalice A housing boom may a useful early indicator of real ea the housing market such spending on household di

STRONG hong mar-ket may by vital and that on durables by element of Section 11.2 per cent, but house prices

house prices will mean that between monetarolicy, the burden of negative equity housing and the ecoty are will lift only slowly. And this

inflation. This was seen the booms of the early 1970_{he} late 1970s and the late 19 heating. But economic gr h and inflation, even in te areas most closely relate, les, can still occur in the sence of housing strength. This has indeed been t nomic cycle, In 1994, for e

hardly changed. Nevertheless, sluggish

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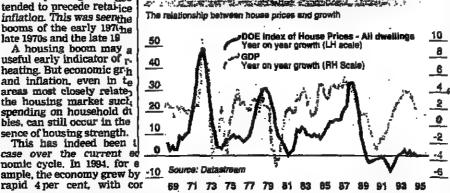
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in which monetary policy im-In the past, rapitouse labour mobility. However, price inflation has ted to there is little evidence that negative equity has harmed Marian Bell



Which?punctures price-rise euphoria

Government 'must me amends' for policies that drove burs to despair. Cliff Jones and Sara Ryle report

lenders and consumer groups warn that the recovery could remain elusive. high level since August,

Consumer watchdogs at Which? today urged buyers to 1992he society forecasts a 2 be cautious and called on the per it rise in house prices Government to do more to help them by abolishing stamp duty in a report which blamed the Conservatives and mortgage lenders for pushing millions of households into negative

OUSE prices have to by the Halifax Building climbed to their highest Scty show the ninth conin almost four years, but serive increase and an amil rise of 2.7 per cent. Thipats the average UK hou price at £64,009, its

> Nahwide Building Society phs show a rise of 1.2 per ceon the year. Its average he price in April of £52,700as the highest since

January when it predicted an increase of 2 per cent for the year. It warns that a shortage of good properties on the mar-ket is holding back a potential increase in activity. A spokesman said that

many existing homeowners are deliberately keeping their houses off the market. People trapped by negative equity, whose mortgages exceed the market value of their home, are waiting for prices to rise before they sell. House sales last month were down to just 89,000 compared to 101,000 for the same month last year.

The Which? report said government policies of right-tobuy, tax relief and financial quity or even homelessness. Octobe 994. deregulation, combined with increase in the threshold at strengthen during the course Monthly figures published. The tionwide is being massive lending by building which it becomes payable, of the year."

more cautious than it was in | societies and banks, had encouraged people to take on too much debt and also boosted house prices to unrealistic

> Some houseowners have watched their houses plum-met by as much as a third, depending on which part of the country they live in. Kate Scribbens, head of the

Consumers' Association Money Group, said: "There are signs that the market is picking up, but homebuyers must be cautious. It is time the Government and lenders shouldered their share of the blame.

"Even a small gesture from

would help. No one wants to see a return to the boom-andbust market of the eighties. People should buy a house as a home, not an investment."

Adrian Coles, director-general of the Council of Mortgage Lenders, believes that the housing market will pick up "in fits and starts" rather than show a steady improvement.

The CML has just recorded the highest number of mortgage approvals in more than a year, but showed quarterly mortgage lending down by more than 14 per cent on the year to £3.7 billion.

Mr Coles said: "The housing market is not going to lift the Government, such as the off but we do expect lending abolition of stamp duty or an and house prices to

1 Jas 100 150

Double Trigger

gets his shot in

bang on target

Tiger thrives in the front-row jungle

Robert Armstrong on the prop Graham Rowntree, who will play a key role for Leicester in the Pilkington Cup fir

ROFESSIONALISM may be a new phenomenon in English rugby yet Graham Rowntree has been a professional for the better part of a decade. It has nothing to do with moment at least not until with money, at least not until | the spotlight imm this season, and everything to it has stayed like do with the cold passion and since." mental rigour of the elite modern rugby player. The Leicester and England prop certainly has those qualities.

does not feel qui cable talking about achievements, which eight caps, four of this year as an extin England's chan winning side. The manager Jack Rowshim so highly that his victor libour and a and something more.
Rowntree, 25, has been playing club and representative rugby for so long that in another sport he would proba-bly qualify for a benefit match. When Bath pack down against the Tigers in Satur-day's Pilkington Cup final the holders will face a loose-head who first pulled on an Engwho first pulled on an England shirt for the 16 Group back in 1986. Since joining Nuneaton as a young boy he has been acquiring a streetwise quality of frontstreetwise quality of front-row experience that money

cannot buy.

Clearly rugby union is Rowntree's all-consuming then I couldn't have ho my career to go better. still has a part-time job in Leicester as an insurance brodelighted to make my full appearance against ern Samoa in last ker. On top of his England contract he recently signed a deal with the Japanese comthe chance to stake a re place against the Sam pany Mizuno that commits him to travelling the length and breadth of the country to season was stopping Scot winning the Grand Slan Murraylield. It was my coach schoolboys. In fact he has coached youngsters for years through a charity called

Rugby Workshop. Speaking of his front-row mates, Richard Cockerill and aking of his front-row weight of expectancy his Richard Cockerill and or Garforth, Rowntree "We've attracted the a Darren Garforth, Rowntree says: "We've attracted the attention of sponsors because

ferent ways and made things difficult for Redpath, their scrum-half. I think we put our The obvious pleasure
Rowntree derives from a powerful scrummage tends to

m won

with

overshadow the conclusive reason the England selectors promoted him after two years on the bench, namely his explosive power in loose play. Those who condemn Leicesately and that ever ter for a conservative for-ward-dominated style should consider the pace, strength and dynamism of the 6ft, 17st 2lb loose-head as he surges forward, eating up the yards with the sort of spectacular aggression only pushs. since."
Like most mem as of the front-row union, owntree ular aggression only rugby can offer present puship-

He has pushed his speed and stamina to punishing levels this season, doing individual fitness work along with Martin Johnson, whose ruthless approach to training compares favourably with the club's fitness freak Neil Back. Such dedication will pay divi-dends if, as expected. Bath try to pull the Tigers' forwards all over the Twickenham turf. Neither Leicester nor Bath

say they are expecting a tacti-cal repetition of the 1994 final when they together contrived one of the grimmest contests in recent memory. However, should the game revert to intractable close-quarter slug-ging Rowntree and his mates are confident they will not give best to the Bath front row of Dave Hilton, Graham "I don't want to take any

thing away from Bath, but this season I thought the Bristol front row was especially tough, very abrasive and very heavy in the scrums." Rowntree says. Every front row in League One does present a great challenge, though, and we know that's what we shall get on Saturday. I'm looking orward to testing myself."



Pillar of strength . . . Graham Rowntree is no toby jug prop

OUBLE TRIGGER, the champion stayer, got rave reviews for his courageeous efforts last season and proved in yesterday's Insulpak Sagaro Stakes at Ascot that his appetite for a fight remains as strong as ever.

Chris Hawkins

Grey Shot obliged him by going the distance and it was only in the final strides that his resistance finally gave out under sustained attack, Uncannily, Double Trigger seemed to know just where the winning post was and he threw in extra in the final 50

yards to get up by a head.

As Jason Weaver entered the winners' enclosure, look-ing more tired than his mount, he shouted: "I thought he was supposed to wake up when he came to the races."

This was a reference to Double Trigger's famed lazi-ness at home, but no doubt his lack of exertion, except where it really matters, contributes to his success.

Unfortunately, he did not do himself justice when an ab-ject fallure in the Melbourne Cup in November and Mark Johnston, his trainer, now believes he was the wrong sort of horse for the race.

"You really need something with a turn of foot — a mile and a half horse," said Johnston. "But having said that I realise that after all the travelling, and what that took out of him, he didn't need as much work as I gave him. The Aussies couldn't believe what I was doing with him and I now think I made a mistake."
It is a tribute to Double
Trigger's enthusiasm that he was not soured by that pun-ishing trip and he is certainly one of the gamest stayers we have seen for some time. A repeat of last year's Ascot Gold Cup triumph is now the

prime aim, but one formida-

ble opponent is bound to be

his stable-companion and full-brother Double Eclipse, who, at four, is a year younger.

The two met in last year's Goodwood Cup, which many remember as the race of the season. Double Trigger won then after a titanic struggle and the re-match should be worth every frustrating minute of the inevitable traffic jams of Gold Cup day.

Jains of coun cup uay.

Johnston is pretty sweet on
his 2,000 Guineas hope Bijou
d'Inde, whom he regards as
excellent each-way value at

around 16-1. "He's working as well as Mister Baileys before he won the Guineas." sald Johnston. The difference is Bijou d'Inde doesn't have the two-year-old form, but he's working brilliantly.

Pat Eddery, hopeful of com-pleting the Guineas double on Storm Trooper and Bosra Sham, did not ride yesterday because of 'flu, but is apparently confident he will be fit for Newmarket tomorrow.

Mick Kinane is standing by

to partner Bosra Sham in the unlikely event of Eddery cry-ing off, but is committed to-Danehill Dancer in the 2,000. Henry Cecil put up Willie Ryan in Eddery's absence on the well-touted newcomer Distant Oasis in the opening Insulpak Conditions Stakes and the filly won like a good 'un after losing 10 lengths at

the start.
"She had problems last year and pulled a muscle behind five weeks ago, but she'll be all right and we put her in the Coronation Stakes the

other day," said Cecil. Willie Haggis saddled his first Ascot winner when Yeast won the Insulpak Vic-toria Cup. By 1991 Haggis had trained a winner on every other Flat racecourse in this country, but an Ascot success

remained stubbornly elusive.

Salisbury with form for the 3ckpot races

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permanent fixture.

"It was a great lear

perience to go on to England to South As

1994, especially the g Port Elizabeth in whic

World Cup and I was

again in December.
"The highlight for me

game up there and a

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2.30 LAUNEMALE WARDICAP SYD Wins In \$4.678

PORM GLUDE - ZELDA ZONIK Huadway II qui, ras on, Srd et 16, St bahard Mennigate (Novembriet 71 hep gil.

PRINCENS DANIELLE: Helt up, holdstyr 4 tif, steyed in anongly final furlong, 2nd of 15, 1 % behind
Estimo Nol (Notingham 1 and http ps)

HONORARE E STATE Lod over 11 ad, all out, won at Salabbery fit nich statt tils git, belang Singosilla sh nd. 10 ran ALDANCHIN Headway 21 out, neiden over 1f out, no erica near finish, 4m of 13, 2 % behind Secret Aly (Laborsian Tim high finit CAPILANO PRINCESSIN: Lea early, chased hadders, led order 16 out, rish on, won at Donzydaw 71 hep, heading Dooble Disembood by 151, 12 ran. JURILINE PLACES 7-4 fee, made will, nddae but, won Windows 81 hept00 gt, bearing Antogon Lady 152, 6 ran.

NR: Mustahil.
5.30 (2m 27 Hole): 1, LORD MCMURROUGH, R Furrari (8-4): 2, Sands Point
(12-1): 3, Sángsby (2-1 tav). 12 ran. 8, 7, 6/
NewHis) Toto E3.40, £1.20, £3.10, £7.00 Dual
F. 240 (1): Tito £18.80 (25F £28.81.
PLACEPOT: £1.536. QUADPOT: £310.90.

PLUMPTON

ASCOT
2.30 (193) 1, DISTAIRT CASIS, W Ryan
(11-4); 2, Tawanded (7-2); 3, Satin Bell
(5-2 fay) 6 ran 28, 1, (H Cocil) Tote: E3.57;
15.50, 22.20 Dual F 15.80, CSF 171.50,
2.05 (2m 45 yds); 1, DOUBLE THEOGER,
J Weaver (11-5 fay); 2, Gray Shot (5-1); 3,
Always Aloof (18-7), 7 ran Ms. 7 (M
JOHNSTO) Tote: E2.20, E1.40, E1.80, Dual F
(2.50, True 116.00, CSF £7.85 NR; Assessed Casis in Nivolesia)

Johnston) Tote: E220: E1.40, E1.80, Busine 13.50, Tro: E1.60, CSF £7.88 Nr. AsserS. 40 (77): 1, YEAST, R Cochrane (8-1), Z. Master Charter (13-2 lav); 3, Primos Baber (20-1); 4, Emerging Biarket (20-1), 31 nn. 1, eh Joh, Nr. (W Haggas) Tore: E3.00, E2.50, E1.90, C4.40, 24.30 Dual F: 22.70, Trio: E7.210, CSF: 27.84, Tricast: 1074.00, 4.10 (57): 1, SMOKEY PETE, J Red (6-4 fav); 2, Salto: (S-2); 3, Klassinger (9-2); 6 fav. Nr. 1, (R Hannon) Tote: C2.50, £1.40, £1.30, Dual F: E2.60, CSF: C5.48, NR: Enchaning Evs. 4.40 (1m): 1, TARASHA, R Hughes (5-4 fav); 2, Behrefoer (12-1); 3, Green Green Descet (10-1); 6 ran. 5, na. (N Callaghan) Tote £2.30, £1.20, £2.70, £2.00, Dual F: £1.10, CSF: £15.49, 1, 2, Sambas Sharphy (20-1); 3, Angust-10, 2, Sambas Sharphy (20-1); 3, Angust-10, 20, E1.50, Dual F: C399, 50 Trio: F967.70, CSF: £114.16, Tricast: £491,35, NR: Capulla's Day.

JACKPOT: £5, 273.00, QUADPOT: £15.70, DUALE C3.70, QUADPOT: £15.70, DUALE C3.70, DUALE C3.70, DUALE C3.70, DUALE C3.70, DUALE C3.70, DUALE C3.70, E3.70, DUALE C3.70, D

2.20 (2m 2f Ndie): 1, POLLY LEACH, D Saller (8-2 lav): 2, Gleenora Muse (15-2): 3, Mr Poppleton (12-1), 14 ran. 14. 8, (8 Milman) Tote: 55 20; 22.00, £1 70, £3 30. Dual F 15.40, True £728.20, CSF 536 55. Treast £356.51. Oder P. 1355. 51.

2.56 (2m 21 Helin): 1, COXWELL STEP-TOS, JF (169) (5-210): 2, Peter Monarry (4-1): 3, Sian Wyn (8-2), 15 ran. 21. 64.

(Miss H Knight): Iote: £350: £160, £2.70.

£180. Dual F £8.00. The £12.10. CSF: £14.64. NR Alpine Storm, Faraday, What's The Lette.

E13.6. Not Alpha Calari.

1.0. Licks.

3.30 (2mr of 110 yels. Ch)r 1, LEMON'S

3.40 (2mr of 110 yels. Ch)r 2, Risresman

Cale (12-1); 3, Resect O'The Crowed (50-1);

12 ran. 24. 31, M Pape) Tote: £2.20, £1.30,

12 ran. 24. 31, M Pape) Tote: £2.20, £1.30,

12 20, £6.00. Dual F: £35 (6. Truo £171.50.

© Evening results on page 22.

J CHEVATI COMMITTION STANDARD 4-7-11

STORE STRICKING SON (20) (D) (EP) J Culture 1

STORE STRICKING SON (20) (D) (EP) J Culture 1

STORE STRICKING (217) (D) M Maggaro 6

TEXT CARRANTON ARRY (3) (D) M Maggaro 6-1

TEXT CARRANTON (2) (C) (D) 6 Palling 6-9-1

STERLING FELLOW (114) Phannen S-HIGH DESIGNE (174) JAMES S-SERVIS TRUST (201) IL PRESCO S-5 SERVIS TRUST (201) IL PRESCO S-5 PRINCELY AFFAR (24) 35 84 5-4 ASTRA MARTIN (9) PAUPIN 7-12 STICHTER BYFAAR (201) N Graham 7-11 ERICHTO KISS (201) (87) IA Februston-Godie, "-'MACROSTIS S, Handalock 7, Stepling Follow S-

ZANTI (195) (CI P Cole 3-0 POOK ISLAND (14) P Outpole—Nam 9-3 MAN GOLD (14) (D) R Handus 9-0 DRY LINE (221) 6 H74s 3-13 4,30

B (197) H Thomson Jones 3-0 MAND (1890RT H Candy 9-0

MAL 1 (189) P Cole 9-0

MAL 1 Toker 9-0

MAL 1 Toker 9-0

MAL 1 Toker 9-0

198) N Graham 9-0

L BIOU D Elements 9-0

L BIOU D Elements 9-0

L MOU D Elements 9-0

AGAGE (188) Elements 9-0 4.00 (2km 27 Hidin): 1, HOLDINGLOSE, J. Frost (8-1); 2, Herry The Morse (10-7); 3, Unicle Alley (14-1). 9-4 (sv Halona, 13 ran. 8, 13, (R Froat) Toke. CS.90; (2-20, 25-60, 42-50). CS.20 (2-20, 25-60, 42-50). Tricesc (104-49, MF) Mr Entertainer, J. CS.20 (2-20, 25-60, 42-60, 42-60, 42-60). CS.20 (2-20, 42-60).

5.00 sun

______R Painter (5) 2
_______ Paul Bidlery 19
______ R Hughes 5
______ D O'Nell (5) 7 35415-0 WT 900-655 AC 6-64136 JR 007405- AF 232) (0) A Newcombu 7-8-6 et 7, Agent Boy 5 Bettings 6-1 Passy Grico DEVL'S

PLIMPTON

2.10 (2m of Holinia 1, WILTOSKI, Mrs N Ledger (9-1); 2, imola (14-1); 3, Klanik (5-2); 9-4 fav Johis Greet, 10 ran 4, 2 (Fl Ledger) Toter 5:1.50, 12.50, 224.08.
4.50 (2m of histor): 1, Toplys GET, D
Bridgester (5-4): 2, Pedaltothemetal
(Event fav): 3, Maronetin (12-1), 7 ran. 8,
6 (M Ploe) Tole: 22.10, £1.80, £1.10 Dual F:
£1.43 CSF: 23.21.
PLACEPOT: 231.40. QUADPOT: £19.80

3

Hamilton

4.40 Three Arch Bris

2.40 Multi-2.10 COATBRIDGE MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES 210 51 EZ-675 M TIPS: I'm SW Here B. Sundde 7

2.40 LEVY BOARD HAMBICAP BYO SF CR. 655 3-32 PROBLEMS (8) (33/19) 3-4
(0-2014 ORBESTSKI (2) (79) 45) (9) N Thister 9-1
(45)-80 OWESFYR (20) (9) 4 Berry 9-1
(5-13) MATTEAMA (6) (78 beg) 5 Bowring 8-1
(0005- SWIFTY METT VOOD W Halen 8-8
(0005- SWIFTY METT VOOD W Halen 8-8
(0005- SWIFTY METT VOOD W Halen 8-7
(0005- SWIFTY W HALEN 8-7
(0005-TOP FORM TIPS: Gergicki S, Frontman 7, Mellowsin 6 Bettings 5-4 Gorensu, 4-1 Mainsame, 5-1 Frontmen, 6-1 Golden Tyte, 16-1 G Really

.G Duffield S .J Carroll S+ .J Fortune 14 .S D Williams 1 .D Wright (3) A .D Melicerum 1 .K Darley 7 .P Feecey (6) 14100-0 SEREDCHIO (21) (CD) R McKeller 8-8-1
200-006 CRANCIE BIDY (21) (CD) N Bycrol 8-7-13
0500-02 NU-AURIX (6) (D) G Dictord 8-7-10
0-31530 RESPANDONE (20) B Bowring 3-7-10
0-31530 RESPANDONE (20) B Bowring 3-7-10
0505-6 BILLEMAY (286) P Montrith 6-7-10
0500-0 SUMDAY BARL TOO (23) (G) Miss L Perrail 4
000-007 RANKAINADE (10) Don Extico Inclas 5-7-10 3.40 EAGLESHAM LIMITED STAKES IN 11 HIPTO CLAST

1 24655 MR MOMARTY (B) S Boaring 5-6-3
2 000-0 ANASHARI FLIGHTY (B) T Coment 4-6-11
4 500-00 GASTROYK (B3) SIY Mark Protest 4-6-11
4 300-00 GASTROYK (B3) SIY Mark Protest 4-6-11
5 6550-00 JUST FLAMEDICO (15) M Pyan 5-0-11
6 6550-00 JUST FLAMEDICO (15) M Pyan 5-0-11
7 000-00 CHERCHA (22) R Phalam 5-6-11
8 450-00 MART SIY MART SIY (CD) MORT SIY MART SIY 10%
D Weight (4) 14
J Carrell 1
Li Carrell 1
Li Carrell 1
Li Deffiald 9
S D Williams 4
D Bygs 13
J Pertune 8
LiCus Tukker 2
A College 7

4.10 communes manufact (in \$5-de \$3,505 O DEUMELOCH (INJUNIONAP Tim 65-9th 72,500 1/304-00 ESTALLA (R) (200) J (7040 5-6-12; 10125-4 SAMDINIOOS DEREM (R) (R) S Bowring 8-8-9 300-025 HEATHYARDS MARCH (R) (RP) M Douts 4-9-4 3106-0 THEMER ANCH SPRINGE (12) (CS) M Johnston EDC-000 MEZAAL (R) D HICHGE 5-8-4 1900-5 SCORPEUS (20) T Clarrent 8-8-10
22-0-30 CREELY LAD (15) (0) M Ryan 5-8-10
200-15 BALLAUD LADY (24) (0) (87) J Wahrnight 4-8-1
00-000 BALLAUD LADY (24) (0) (87) M Revoley 7-7-13
00-000 BATTLE COLOURS (8) (0) 100 Emizo Implies 7-7-1
000-000 BATTLE COLOURS (8) (0) 100 Emizo Implies 7-7-1 18 0/66/30- AMERICA (211) (CD) Mre 6 Bradbonie 5-7-10 ... 14 000-002 STRATY/TOTAL DISEASE (6) Most L. Percet 5-7-10 ... TOP FURE TIPS: Sundaneer Dunius 8, Three Arch Bridge 7, Septin 5

4.40 EPLENEL CLASSIC STATES 370 tm 85/44 22,847 O REL LISHEL CLAMMON STARCES 370 fm depic C2,
(O CALD RUSH WING (49) Piadaim 9-5
1 \$1675 A WRINGE (20) (C0) P Monowh 9-2
(00) most Perfix (1 82) X McAulith 8-7
25-(20) SUBLEY SECURE (9) M Chanton 9-18
46-(3) DARROO (7) S Williams 8-11
504(0-80 Y KSME (10) N Timbler 8-4
400-00 AUTOPYR (22) J Walton (9) 6-2
500-00 PRAIS OF THOUGHT (20) J Malaten 7-12
(0-30 PMAR CLOSER (3) W Kemp 7-12 __I Charmonk S __J F Egen 6 __P P Marphy (A) ? __X Durley 1 __Xim Tinkler 8 __D Wright (3) B __Dale Gibson 4

Building: 7-4 Ste's A Warner: 5-2 Sueley Secure: 5-1 Dankoo, 6-1 Mon Pare, 10-1 My Klad, 16-1 Old Hank Yeing, Puerfa Of Thought. 5.10 EAST KILLERDS HANDICAP In of \$3,517

2420-2 BAYRAK (6) (C) M Pyet 6-10-0
(C29-5) YABILLUDI (10) (Sib ad) C Smith 4-9-10
(216-5) LORD RASTIE (21) (CD) C Thorston 8-9-9
(CD-02) BARAWAY (21) (BF) D Michels 8-9-7
(220-5) CUTTINGOAT (CD (21) (CD) Mic M Pyetley 8-8-4
(565-005 TURGERSW (21) R Bastiman 7-9-5 O Peers (3) 11
Alax Greaves 4
X Durley 2+
Bit Snotkman (6) 7 O/TS-106 BOCK GROUP (16) J Penrce 4-6-13
8 (64-90 BOCK GROUP (19) E Alnion 8-8-2
3 (33-63) PALACE OF GOLD (21) L Large 8-7-11
6 (22-40 THOUSHTOWN ESTATE (8) M Johnston 3-711 SSEED KIRKETTER (85) D Chapman 6-7-10
12 (684-6 LOSTINS (22) M Dobs 5-7-16
13 0-220-0 DOWT CRY (22) On Environ Inches 8-7-10

Wolverhampton (A.W.)

2.20 SLOANE MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES BYO M 62,885 YOUNG MONIO (14) J Berry 8-10 _ COUNT HOUSE B McMahan 8-7 ... RS CAVIAR AND CAMERY (72) (BF) D Co SS DANCING STAR (B) P Evens 7-12 3 WHO TOLD VICKY (P) J Mages 7-12

Settings 3-1 Young Bignes, 7-2 Jingarsi, 5-1 Jeel Loui. 7-1 Helio Dolly, 6-7 C-Herry, Court House, 19-1 Who Fold Victy.

2.50 GROSYDIOR CLASSING STAKES OF EX. SEL 1 42201 CRETAN CEPT (5) (CD) N Limcden 5-9-11 2 500-01 PALACSCATE TOUCH (6) (CD) J Berry 5-9-11 3 000510 Little inter (10) (CD) P Evans 5-9-7 Sundara (5) 4 4 210-802 SITIAASH (#) (D) D Haydn Jones 4-9-5 (D-2244 MAINTETT CHROMENLE (100) (D) Norm S Witten 5,9-5 MEZONS AT THE SAMOT (05) (D) Lita L Suddes 5-9-5 MESONS AREA CONTROLLED (100) (D) Hollmanned 5-9-3 21985 DAMIYAN (200) (D) (C. Moore 5-9-2 (SGS-9 PRINCEDS MEMATA (180) R Parts 3-9-10

Betting 3-1 Creisn Gift, 7-2 Paleoegese Touch, 6-1 Mostn't Grambie, 7-1 Indeesta, 6-1 Little Ibrr. Dahrysin, 13-1 At The Sevoy

269-11 SPLICENC (15) (D) W Hasges 9-7
200-40 EMMET MATURE (16) (CD) W Javis 5-11 ...
494-17 FORS GET (D) B Hentour 5-4-4
13421 MESS OFFSET (2) (7% ex) (CD) M Johnston
13421 MESS OFFSET (2) (7% ex) (CD) M Johnston
13420-4 Labranck Mullicent (B) J Berry 8-1
13420-4 RABBIT TOKETHER (40) (I Moore 7-1)
144907 MAPMER STAR (B) (7% ex) (D) Mm M Marcu 100 FOSSI TIPS: Miss Office & Spilling 7,

3.50 MEKALEY HANDICAP 1m 4f 22,258 OU 45:1- RED PHARTOR (271) (C) (D) 8 Mefor 4-10-0
150702- CANTOR VERTURE (201) (CD) 8 Mefor 4-10-0
150702- CANTOR VERTURE (201) (CD) 8 Meros 4-0-7
490-821 CUBAN MEGNTS (20) (CD) 8 Liverbyn 4-8-8
100-921 BT TAS MOREY (30) (CD) 8 Holdenberg 7-0-0
10-00 ZAALEP (10) 8 Harbery 4-0-12
134-550 CARALLE RICHTER (20) (CD) 9 Herris 6-8-9
048010 CAPTANH MARMALADE (16) 0 Thom 7-0-5
102511 CANCL AGAM (8) (D) N Sycroft 4-7-12
153551 CONTECTS (10) (CD) 3 J Sottombry 8-7-10
(000:5-0 CULTARM (8) 7 Caldwed 5-7-10 agela telkasra (7) t 11 (2009/- KUTAN (1016) Barbara Waring 8-7-10 (2000-4 MH280L (20) K Burba 7-7-10 (2000-4 MH280L (20) K Burba 7-7-10 (2000-1) Hamiton 8 (2000-1) Ha

4.20 MANCHESTER SELLING STAKES 270 1m 4F CD,070 0-60 CHELINGTON (19) W Brisbourne 6-11 9-5200 CEYSTAL FASY (20) P Kellengy 8-11 0-900 MENUER GOLF DEAMONED (10) T Naugiston 8-11 36 ROGERIC MERO (8) A Jarvis 8-11 D-6 PEARL AMERITEMENT (5) M Johnston 8-11 CDD-030 SHAMAND (2) B Mochan 8-11 Author (7) 11 Taby 4 1)-61 SWEET AMORET (19) (5) P Howing 8-11 p- WATER CHESTIEIT (178) Mrs N Michaels

TOP FORM TIPS: Sweet Ameret B, Pearl Ameret y 7, Sh utiling: 11-4 Sweet Amoret, 7-2 Driffholms. 5-1 Crystell Past, 7-1 Hever Gotf Du . B-1 Pandora's GR 1030-02 PERFECT REAM* (22) 3 Saiding 5-10-0
20:143 THE DESTITUTE BOY (3) (D) Also J Craze 6-0-13
20:143 THE DESTITUTE BOY (3) (D) Also J Craze 6-0-13
20:100 RESMY/FOLLER (3) (CD) J Hothering 5-8-8
20:100 RESMY/FOLLER (3) (CD) J Hothering 5-8-8
20:200 RESMY/FOLLER (3) (CD) P Hothering 6-0-4
100-200 DISCO BOY (9) (CD) P Hothering 6-0-4 ...J Wasser 2 ...F Lynch (5) 5 ...S Whitesoft 7 "A 1 O.Comme. "I Chapte 8 "E All Chapter 1 7 854954 SIR TASKER (10) (CD) J.L. Harris 8-8-0 8 (00)(1) HIGHLAND FAVIN (9) (CD) B McAlshon 9 06-040 DAANESRA (10) (D) P Howing 6-8-4 ... ov Woods 4+

TOP FORM TIPS: Str Tauker S, Lady Sheets 7, Perfect Brave S Betällings 8-4 Lady Sharilli, 3-1 The Institute Boy, 9-2 Perfect Brave, 7-1 Highland Finns, 8-1 Str Tzeker, 10-1 Teo-Esse, 12-1 Recrystopes.

■ Blinkered inday for the first time: HAMILTON: 240 Aye Ready, Gwespyr; 4.10 Nizaal, Segala. SALISBURY: 2.00 Telathath; 4.00 Roman Gold. WOLVERHAMPTON: 2.20 C-Harry; 3.20 Sweet Nature: 3.50 Zealeff. 4.20 Chillington, Drifttholme.

Joy confined

JOHN GOSDEN'S Leap For Joy was beaten a nose by Imprevedibile in the Premio Certosa (5f) at San Siro, Milan, yesterday, while John Dunlop-trained Kristal's Paradise came last of 10 to Camp David in the two-mile Mulheim Fruhjahrs-Steher-Preis at Mulheim in Germany.



Graham

awaits

Bridge

Martin Thorpe on the probable manager in waiting

EORGE GRAHAM is the favourite to succeed Glenn Hoddle at Chelsea, completing his resurrection after the one-year ban imposed by the FA over the bung scandal.
The former Chelsea player is free to resume his manage

cussions with the Chelsea chairman Ken Bates and the vice-chairman Matthew

Harding. Graham's success with Arsenal makes him an obvious target should Chelsea

nancial transgressions can easily be forgotten in the pur-suit of silverware.

Although his brand of prag-

matic football won two league

titles at Arsenal, Graham

showed signs of having lost his way towards the end of

his reign at Highbury. His

year's rest will undoubtedly have revived his appetite, though in today's increas-ingly sophisticated tactical world he will need to show he

has moved on from the foun-

call

HODDLE AND ENGLAND





Hand of Hod . . . Glenn Hoddle's willingness to embrace Continental ideas has been an inspiration to Chelsea on and off the field and at the age of 38 years he is poised to become England's most youthful manager rial career this summer and has recently been seen in dis-

Christian ready to be thrown to lions

David Lacey says that time is already running out for England's prospective manager as World Cup qualifying looms in September

O AFTER four older at the time of his apmonths of fiddling, pointment in 1962. Compared the Football Association has at last found is not on Hoddle's side. the job from July 1 he should sit on the England bench in June for Euro '96. He would be there purely as an oba Christian to throw to the

But although Glenn Hoddle may have been born again, he still has to demonstrate that, as England coach, he was not born vesterday.

At 38 Hoddle, provided he accepts the job, will be the most youthful England man-Ramsey was only four years

The career

1957: b Oct 27, Hayes, Middx. 1974: signed by Tottenham. 1975: turns pro; debut as sub 1976: scores on full debut v Stoke. 1979: scores on England debut v

Bulgaria. 1981; wins FA Cup v Man City. 1982: wins FA Cup v OPR 1984: wins Uefa Cup. 1987: £750,000 move to Monaco.

of 53 England caps (8 goals). 1990: ratires through injury. 1991: non-contract comebaci

ship via play-offs; quits a month later to become Chelsea manager 1954: Chelsea lose FA Cup final.

Not for him the luxury of a four-year period of prepara-tion for a World Cup hosted by England. No. within nine weeks of

the European Championship final at Wembley he will be taking his squad to Moldova for the opening match of the 1998 World Cup qualifers on September 1.

Since his agent is one Dennis Roach, Hoddle is clearly a believer in rendering unto Caesar. And if he can turn water into wine then so much England coaches come and

go but the person in charge can do no more than use the material at his disposal to the best of his ability. The job is part tactical, part

motivational. At the moment Terry Venables appears to have struck a careful balance between the human and strategic factors. So far, in what Venables

left either that the FA hoped Venables would change his has set out to do, he has taken the players with him. On his reasonable distance in the European Championship will the ease or difficulty of Hod-

out to be the best choice for the job. Doubts about his managerial experience will sit on the England bench in June for Euro '96. He would be there purely as an ob-server, and Venables and his persist but he has already shown, both at Swindon Town and Chelsea, a steely sense of purpose which was not always his stock-in-trade as a player.

Even Ron Greenwood, a firm believer in the sort of skill and imagination Hoddle possessed, had misgivings

GLENN HODDLE gets upset at being called a born-again Chris-

tian, writes Martin Thorpe.

It makes him sound like a zealot. All he happens to

believe is that there is

more to this world than the material; and he tries to live his life, even in football, guided by that

So in deciding whether to

take the England job Hod-dle will have looked beyond

the advice of others to be-

liefs which are influenced

by a sense of spirituality and destiny.

do with his personality."
Bobby Robson had the best
and worst of him as an Eng-

land player. The 1986 World Cup saw Hoddle readily complement the burgeoning partnership of Gary Lineker and Peter Beardsley, and two years later in the 1988 Euro pean Championship his skills as a substitute all but turned the opening match against the Republic of Ireland in Eng-

"His ability is prodigious." But he was a living disaster he wrote, but "he was not as against the Soviet Union in commanding as he should Frankfurt, and never played.

there was something more.

There was a very strong spiritual feeling."

Roddle's is not the driv-ing force of the average football manager but he

manifests an internal

Born again to be England's man

that cave, like the rest of is ambitious and will stick

the lads, and thought it was a fantastic experience. But point of stubbornness.

land's favour.

in his three years with Mo-naco, whose coach, Arsène Wenger, allowed his talents a free rein. As a player-man-ager at Chelsea and Swindon,

bility bred greater resolve. ment is good news for the next generation of England footballers. His faith in Continental playing styles, espe-cially the use of three defenders augmented by wing-backs, will encourage more Phil and

Gary Nevilles. | lon: delayed; always Hoddle shares many of Ven- | mg Hoddle says yes

doubt that Hoddle is the

right man to replace Terry

an ideal England manager.

strength, and the success it He gains respect from the to work with. He was trying has brought him testifies to players because of his to get hold of me last Fri-

its power.

History as a great player day, perhaps to congratuation. He is anything but a soft and because he can also late us for winning the touch. He expects certain explain how to do it. He championship. That's the standards from his players even got those with less sort of man he is."

deem it appropriate to appoint a man who perpetrated does not seem to have been have been... He did not take for his country again, ablest eliefs, although possitive first choice.

He may, of course, still turn may have had something to quired considerable stature phases on doing things in such a huge financial indis-cretion. Success remains paramount in football and fi-

> dulu:: continued to swing be-tween bookies and bishops; in Robsen, Taylor and Venables have belonged to either turf or cloth. With Hoddle the collar his done another turn.

Whether he is the man for the job, the job only knows. In the end, like everyone else, he will be judged by results. For England's sake it is to be hoped that Judgment Day is long delayed; always assum-

dation of a flat back four pushing up for offside. Another strong candidate to succeed Hoddle is Ruud Gullit. He came to Chelsea because of Hoddle and, though he has one year left of his playing contract, the club may feel obliged to offer him After a trip to Bethlehem on and off the field. He is ability to carry out his with England he once said: distrustful of the media and style.

"I could have walked out of can be introverted. But he "He is a strict but undersome coaching palliative to offset the loss of his footballstanding man and, what is more, he has a very happy family background. He has

ing soul-mate.

Gullit was typically diplomatic yesterday, offering no clue to his intentions. "If [Glenn] takes the job it would mean things changing at Chelsea, but you cannot think only of yourself. That would be selfish."

Of the other candidates, Hoddle's assistant manager

Peter Shreeves proved a flop as a No. 1 at Tottenham, and the youth coach Graham Rix is a bright talent on his way up the coaching ladder.

die's brief depend. Logically. if Hoddle takes way one looks at it Hoddle Bosman may be United's Bruce Premiership: Arsenal 0, Liverpool 0

ian Ross

ELTIC's John Collins may become the first high profile British footballer to exploit the Jean-Marc Bosman ruling by moving abroad on a free transfer. The Scottish international midfielder is considering joining the Uefa Cup finalists Bordeaux when his contract expires at the end of June. After the Bosman verdict, a player who is out of contract

a free transfer. Shortly before the March transfer deadline the Scottish club rejected an Everton offer of some £1.5 million for Collins, insisting he was worth at least £2.5 million. Six weeks on. Celtic are faced with the prospect of collecting nothing for a man who could figure in Scotland's European Champi-

is entitled to move abroad on

onship campaign.
If Collins were to defect to the French club it would leave Everton disappointed Royle has been tracking the 28-year-old for more than nine months and would continue to monitor his progress. If Collins and his family did.

boon for Collins STEVE BRUCE will miss Manchester United's po-tential championship de-

Although there is absolutely no suggestion that Everton and Bordeaux have entered into any form of discussion about Collins's longterm future, the whole ques-tion of the movement of outof-contract players is causing

concern all over Europe. The fear is that players may stage-manage free transfers to clubs abroad, only to join a third club a matter of a few final replay, which would push the match back to May 21.

If, for example, a player at Premiership club A were refused permission to join Premiership club B, he could move abroad on a free transfer at the end of his contract and then be sold back to club B for a vastly reduced, perhaps prearranged, fee.
The Football Association and the Professional Football-

ers' Association have already discussed what is a worrying and the matter is likely to be brought before the European governing body Uefa before the start of next season. Results

Collins and his family did not fit in, Everton might seek to return him to Britain.

misses crunch game at Boro

coaching team need not be embarrassed by such a pres-

ence. Even if they were, Eng-

land's needs are surely the

In a perfect world Hoddle

would have been there from the moment Venables was ap-

pointed two years ago, much

as Jupp Derwall sat alongside Helmut Schoen, and Berti

wall and Franz Beckenbauer. But where the Germans bave

dynasty the FA can manage

only travesty. Venables was appointed

England coach mainly be-

cause he was available and despite his already heavy

By deciding in January not

to continue in the job beyond Euro '96 he gave the FA a

breathing space, but only on Monday was Hoddle

Thus the impression was

mind and stay or that one or

other of the refuseniks, Bryan

Robson for example, would

have second thoughts about

iegal involvements.

approached.

overriding factor.

cider at Middlesbrough. The club captain has a torn hamstring and his manager Alex Ferguson said: "He is out of the running for Sunday, there is no question

ted in court a charge of speeding after his boroloughed into another car, killing the driver.

Will Buckley

killing a man in a road acci-

about that."
Should United tie for the title with Newcastle the sides will play off at Wembley on Thursday May 16, unless there is an FA Cup

Patrick Kluivert, one of the aces up Holland's sleeve for the European Champi-onship, could face six months in Jail when he is sentenced on May 14 for Elliance and in a mad actident last September. The Ajax striker admit-

rowed and uninsured BMW

Frustration for Bergkam Mathie's the man

EVEN years ago these two sides met at the end of the season to stage a show-stopping finale to the Last night the fixture was more of a sideshow, yet for Arsenal a crucial one to deter-

mine whether they would es-tablish a beachbead in Europe. This draw edged them closer and if they beat Bolton at home in their last game of the season, the final Uefa Cup place will be theirs. Arsenal, the needler side, started the hungrier. Merson and Bergkamp combined to create a chance for Hartson

but his first attempt was blocked and his second went bobbling wide. A couple of Merson outswinging corners exposed de-ficiencies in Liverpool's defence as Marshall and Hart-son, both unmarked, headed

cancy as a Bergkamp free-kick found its way to the cap-tain, Keown, who failed to

Immediately Liverpool res ponded with Dixon skewing the ball perilously over his own bar and Fowler crossing for an offside Collymore to bead confidently, but irrele vantly, home.
As the half wore on Liver-

pudlian guile outwitted Ar-senal's graft. Platt, introduced before the game as England's captain, was having another of those games that made one question his place in the national squad. Redknapp and Barnes out-shone him and, at one stage, even Parlour dispossessed

Yet, in the final minute of the half. Arsenal should have taken the lead when Merson straight at James. Liverpool, played Hartson through and

meanwhile, were content to sit back and pass and wait.

On the half-hour they nearly paid for their compia-The second half was more frenetic with Arsenal provid-

ing most of the pace. Harrson wriggled through and was stopped by Scales hastening back. Ruddock carried the ball on, Bergkamp carried it away from him but shot too close to James.

close to James.

Still they continued to press forward. Keowin headed a Bergkamp free bick over the bar and the Butchman appealed vigorously for a penalty as his cross was deflected wide for a const.

Then Hartson made space on the right and fired in a terrific shot which cannoned off James but the hapless Winterburn could duly flall at the

burn could daly fiall at the

rebound.

Arsenal: Sesmin. Dison Keewn.
Lnighan, Winterbro. Merson Marshall.
Plat. Parkour, Merson Berghamp.
Liverpook Janies. Ruddock, Squies,
Babb, McAleef: Redknapp, Barnes,
McManaman, John Collymore, Fowler
Hetereer G Assay (Worcoster).

First Division: Ipswich 2, Huddersfield 1

Paul Weaver

Mike Spearman, the a lovely wife and two chairman of Hoddle's previ-children so he can always

ous club Swindon, is in no 30 home to a wonderful

right man to replace Terry "I was very impressed Venables. "He would make with him during his time

environment.

here and he was a pleasure

HE glorious Alfred McAlpine Stadium will not be gracing the Premiership next season but Ipswich, down to 10 men after 65 minutes last night, can still make the play-offs. Huddersfield had to win to

retain any remote chance of a play-off spot and duly took an early lead and turned round only to see all hopes dashed in the 83rd minute when Alex Mathie sent a crowd of 17,473 wild with his second goal of the night and his 19th of the season.

Ipswich threatened as early as the second minute when Mathie, looking yards offside, ran on to Milton's ball but shot straight at the goal-keeper. But the visitors led after a breakaway move in the 26th minute when the full-back Stockwell could only half-clear Booth's cross into the path of Thornley and the

Fixtures

Soccer

on Ioan Manchester United player's drive beat Wright. Ipswich equalised in the 45th minute when Thomsen crossed from the left, Milton miskicked and the ball fell to Mathie who drove home.

have regained the lead during a surging spell early in the second half. In the 56th minute Booth, on the left, beat Wright with his shot but saw the ball rebound from the left post; a minute later Collins shot over from 15 yards.

But Ipswich worked their way back into the game and on 59 minutes Marshall, put through by Mathie, shot narrowly wide. Home jaws rowly wide. Home jaws dropped when Milton, already booked for a late tackle, was dismissed after a second yellow card for a foul on Makel—but then Mathie struck, ipswiete Wright; Stockweif, Taricao, Thomsen, Wark, Scoweroll, Mason, Sedgley, Methie, Marshall, Milton, Sculley, Marshall, Milton, Sculley, Gray, Collins, Makel, Bullock, Scully, Gray, Collins, Makel, Booth, Jepson, Thomiey, Reference M Plerce (Portsmouth).

Mossley.

PONTINS LGE (7.0). Seconds Bradford C

Leicester, Mansfield v P Vale; Preston v FA CARLING PREMIERSMIP (7.45): Leeds v Toltenham; N Forcet v Newcasde. CONFERENCE: Maccledfed v Slough (7.45: Northwich v Kelbering (7.45): UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier Divisional **Rugby Union**

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FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

UNIBOND LEAGUE: First Divisions Worksop Tn 1, Asmon Utd 3; Farsley Celtic

2. Lincoln Utd 1.
COS LEAGUE: Presnier Divisions Harrow
Bor 1. Hayes 1.
Sloke 1: Bolton 2. Birmingham C 0. Derby
3. West Brom 1: Man Utd 2. Trammer's 2.
Shell Wood 4. Oldham 2. Prestigemed:
Lasds v Notim Forest, Thirty Darlingson 1.
Chester 3. Doncaster 1. Walsall C: Scarborough 0. Shrewbury 0. Saunthorpe 0.
Carlisle 6: Stockport 4. Lincoln 0. Wresham 3. Chesterfield 2.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATIONS
Firsts "OPR 4. Brighton 1: Bristol C 0. Walford 3: Charton 2. Partsmouth 1: Luton 2.
Swinton 1; Southampion 2. Bristol Rvin 2.
Wimbledon 4. Arsenal 2 ("champions).
USE'A CUP: Final, first legs Bayern Munich 2. Bordesux 0.
USE'A CUP: Final, first legs Bayern Munich 2. Bordesux 0.
USE'A CUP: Final, first legs Bayern Munich 2. Bordesux 0.
USE'A CUP: Final, first legs Bayern Munich 2. Bordesux 0.
USE'A CUP: Final, first legs Bayern Munich 2. Brotesta Moendermann LEAGUES Fortuna Ouesteldor!
2. Si Pauli 0. Hamburg 2. Borussia Moenchengischach 1: Cofogna 3. Eintracht
Frankhuri 0.
Rouby Union

SUPER 12: Auckland (NZ) 56, New South Wales (Aus) 44, Natal 49 Transvasi 13.

ATP TOURNAMENT (Munich): Second rounds Q luminovia (Cro) bt R Carretoro (Sp. 6-7, 6-3, 6-4; C Maya (Sp.) bt T Carretoro (Sp. 6-7, 6-3, 6-4; C Maya (Sp.) bt T Carretoro (Sp. 6-7, 6-6, 6-2, ATP TOURNAMENT (Attanta). First rounds in Chang (US) bt J Conners (US) 6-4, R Renoberg (US) bt J Conners (US) 6-2, 3-6, 6-1, 3 Franca (Arg) bt M Filippini (Ibu) 7-6, 3-6, 6-4; R Freemberg (Aus) bt M Wilander (Swa) 6-3, 6-4 B Shelton (US) bt C Woodruff 6-3, 2-6, 6-3; V Special (Conners)

den (US) bt G Pozzi (ii) 8-1, 6-4; S Stolle (Aus) bt G Doyle (Aus) 7-5, 6-2; S Brager (Aus) bt P Rather (Aus) 7-6, 6-2; S Brager (Aus) bt P Rather (Aus) 7-6, 6-4; A TP GZECH OPEN (Prague): First rouseds B Uffleneth (Crit bt P Luca (Cut 6-0, 6-2; E Second resents A Marcha (Sb) bt M Aurelius (Gort; Sp) 6-2, 6-2; J Seconder (Sp) bt M Rather (Sb) bt M Rather (Sb) bt M Rather (Poz) bt M Marques (Poz) 6-4, 6-2; E Seconder (Sb) bt F Martial (Sp) 7-6, 6-2; T Bluester (Aut) bt H Drockmann (Ger) 4-6, 8-2, 7-6; M P Philipponents (Aus) bt P Korda (Cz) — Korda withdrew.

LTA SPRINGS SAFELITE (Hather): Meers First roused: W Tree (Aut) bt M Lee (GB) 6-2, 6-4; T Schleensing (Auf) bt A Parmar (GB) 6-2, 6-4; T Schleensing (Auf) bt A Parmar (GB) 6-2, 6-4; T Schleensing (Auf) bt A Parmar (GB) 6-3, 6-4; M Weed (GB) bt S Ponder (GB) 6-4, 1-6, 6-2; P Ridderry (Aus) bt J Barmet (GB) 6-1, 6-2, 5 Separed (GB) bt N Bagtin (GB) 6-0, 3-1 ret A Seculiasch (Ger) bt R Martiscon (GB) 7-6. 7-5; O Bearrieus (Sp) bt M Wyeth (GB) 8-1, 6-2; R M Goodwar (Aus) bt M Turtovic (Stowakia) 6-3, 7-4, 6-4; P Meed (GB) bt D Sanders (GB) 6-4, 3-0 ret G Steenskamp (As) bt A Tordolf (GB) 6-3, 7-5; E Le Buscens (Pr) bt M Charnovis (Indo) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2; Weed (GB) bt O Sabery (GB) 7-5; N Egions (GB) 6-1, 4-6, 6-2; P Meed (GB) bt O Sabery (GB) 7-5; N Egions (GB) 6-1, 4-6, 6-2; M Wood (GB) 6-1, 4-6, 6-2;

6-3, 6-3; J Wood (GS) bt B Aver (Aut) 4-6. 6-2, 6-4; J Puillin (GB) bt L Lattmer (GB) 6-3, 6-1. WOMEN'S OPEN (Hamburg): First rounds J Hatard-Decapts (Fr) bt J Kander (GG) 6-3, 6-2 III Haughs (Serfiz) bt M Paz (Arg) 6-1, 6-1; A Glasse (Ger) bt M Strandiumd (Swe) 6-3, 6-4; A Mountaillo (So) bt M Oremans (Neth) 6-0, 6-2; J Wiesmer (Art) bt R Bobikovs (Cr) 6-1, 8-1; K Novent (Pol) bt S Meler (Ger) 6-1, 6-2; K Boogent (Neth) bt E Wagner (Ger) 6-1, 6-1; V Rouno-Passed (Sp) bt A Serra-Zanetti (III 6-1, 6-4, Second rounds A Sandhar-Visamio (Sp) bt P Schnyder (Swetz) 6-2, 6-0; R Bragontir (Rom) bt A Carleson (Swe) 6-1, 8-6, 6-1. Conservacanio (Spi) bi P Schnyder (Switz)
6-2.6-0: R Bragonsir (Rom) bi A Carleson
(Swe) 6-1.5-1.

Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE Boston 13, Detroit
4: Glevoland 5. Chicago 3: Ballimore: 10

New York 13, Toronto 9, Milwaukee 8, Min-nesota 16, Kansas City 7; Texas 9, Seattle 8; Oaktand 3, California 7 RATPORAL LEAGUE Florida 7, Prilladel-phia 2, Ginclinnati 7, Prillaburgh 10; Chicago 7, St Louis 8; Houston 5, Atlanta 7; Los Angeles 7, Colorado 4, San Diego 4, San Francisco 9, Pasapossek New York y Ministral Basketball

INBA PLAY-OFFR: First rounds Eastern Conferences Orlands 101, Detroit 88 (Orlands rounds 101, Detroit 88 (Orlands win series 3-0). Western Conference Houston 104, Los Angeles 95 (Houston 104 agries 2-1): Seattle 95, Secremento 89 (Seattle lead 2-1). **Evening Racing** CHELTENKAM

MR: Mac's Boy. Tangis Beron 8.20: 1, KINGS TREASURE, Mr A Baiding (2-1); 2, Halliam Tars (11-2); 3, Pastoral Pride (7-4 tav), 9 ran. 23, 13, || Baiding) Tote: 2.60: £1.10. £1.60. £1.40. Dual F: £8.20. Trio: £4.30. CSF: £1.50. NR: Reh Wan. PLACEPOTI ES.50. QUADPOTI: £7.70.

6 ran. 12 2. pt 2017) 17th: \$4.50 Y.180, \$2.70, Dual Ft DS O CSF (20.25, NR: Bosthus, Boring Lonnanyam, St Elmo's Fine, 6.50 Y. GLEMIGIS, N. Bonifoy (9-1); 2. phreet Reute (7-1 lay); 2. Cittades (15-8), 6. ran. 4. n. / 2. More) 17th: 25.80, 6.1.40 Dual Ft 24.10 Trip 25.80, 6.27 Cl. 46 Dual Ft 24.10 Trip 25.80, 6.27 Cl. 46 Trunet 23.80, NR. Eurolisk The Robot, Finitiock, Fourth In Line, Sharleshau, Woll Appointed, 7-25, 1, 26.57 Cl. 47 Cl. 47, 5. C. 6.281 (16-1), 2. Royal Jeaster (11-10 Lay), 3. C. 6.281 (16-1), 2. Royal Jeaster (11-10 Lay), 3. C. 6.281 (16-1), 2. Royal Jeaster (15-10 Lay), 3. C. 6.281 (16-1), 2. Royal Jeaster (15-10 Lay), 3. C. 6.281 (16-1), 2. Royal Jeaster (15-10 Lay), 3. C. 6.281 (16-1), 2. Royal Jeaster (15-10 Lay), 4. (Afric M Revelly) Total 23 10 Cl. 40 (18), 5. C. 7. Trac. 5. C. 7.

Chess BRITISM LEAGUE (Newcastle): Round
10: Guidlord 6. 5 Wales 1k: Slough 6.
Brisiol I. Na Flainn, 2. British Chess Mag
6, Alchmond 5. Harmord 3: N West 2, Mid-lands 6. Winney 2: Wood Green 5k: New-castle 4. Croydon 4. Standings Midlands
1970. Sough 18. Yood Green 16: BCM 13: Witney 12. N West 11.

Table Tennis EUROPEAN C'SHEPE (Bratislava): Henc Semi-finale: France 4. Poland 1; Sweden 4. Beigum 1. Play-offe: 9-10: Holland 4. England 1.

Snooker EMBASSY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

"一","一" 专门 10 F 14 84 T Transaction . Market Car **** *** *** The March Street A. Manage 🙀 - 1454 # ME That The Mark 5 f. 2 超 9 m The Committee of the Co time to the state of

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Time . New broke , men ton E. AT The said

O'Sullivan back from the brink

Clive Everton in Sheffield

ONNIE O'Sullivan kept alive his chance to supersede Stephen Hendry as the youngest winner of the Embassy World Championship with a dramatic 13-12 quarter-final win over John Higgins, another 20-year-old for whom other 20-year-old for whom the day had begun with this historic possibility. O'Sullivan was widely con-

sidered fortunate to escape disqualification after admitdisqualification and the disqualification and assistant press officer. Michael Ganley, the severity of which was reflected in the WPBSA's record fine of £20,000, a "voluncian of £10,000 to "Sullivan said."

as Land assistant press cause he so violents, oned when Ganley asked the driver to leave the pressroom on Sunday. "One of the greatest people I've ever met," O'Sullivan said.

Of his father, serving a life in murder, he said.

The world No. 3 made the most of his reprieve with ex-ceptional nerve and skill to turn his 10-6 overnight deficit into a semi-final place against Steve Davis or Peter Ebdon. Higgins's defeat means he will finish the season as No. 2 in the world rankings behind

Assisted by a 41/2-minute break of 106 in the second frame of the day and a black-ball win in the fourth after several adventures on the colours, O'Sullivan levelled at 10-10. Higgins, winner of five world-ranking titles in the past 18 months and as much the epitone of consistency and concentration consistency. and concentration as O'Sullivan is of volatility and inspiration, coolly went two up with three to play but was

pegged back to 12-11.

Then the young Scot. 56 behind, was given the chance of a match-winning clearance. His effort reached 52 but his

position for pink left him a tricky shot with the rest. Its failure left O'Sullivan the casiest of chances for 12-12.

There was a mistake on either side in the decider hefore O'Sullivan's 33 left Higgins needing a snooker.
Emotionally drained, O'Sullivan shound malooma humillivan showed welcome humil-

livan showed welcome humility in victory. "I'm not mega-elated for myself, but I'm just pleased for the people around me who stood by me. I've never felt like this before."

He singled out his driver and general factotum, known as Del Boy, the friend whose cause he so violently championed when Ganley asked the

sentence for murder, he said emotionally: "It means so much to my dad. It keeps him going. He said I was totally out of order. He said just to buckle down and concentrate

on playing snooker."

Davis, meanwhile, seemed to be on his way out when he trailed Ebdon 7-2 after being 5-1 down overnight, but he drew deep on experience, resource and skill to level at 7-7. He had taken the day's opening frame with a 104 clearance.

Hendry continued the deference of his title by several continued the defer

fence of his title by progressing from 5-3 to 12-4 over Darren Morgan, the Welsh No. 1, assisted by breaks of 110 and 108.

Nigel Bond completed a 13-7 win over Dave Harold. "I desperately wanted to win a ranking event," he said, refer-ring to his capture of the British Open title three weeks ago, "and that made me feel' quite comfortable and relaxed



RFU team shun peace talks

NGLISH rugby's crisis
deepened last night when a meeting chaired president Bill Bishop was boycotted by the three men structures," Bishop said. charged by the RFU with ne gotiating with Courage League One and Two clubs.

Cliff Brittle, Malcolm Phillips and Fran Cotton insisted that the get-together had been postponed because of an inconclusive agenda. But Bishop, who last week was appointed chairman of the talks etween English Professional Rugby Union Clubs and the RFU negotiators, went ahead

with the meeting. Officials and players had hoped that in this final week of the season substantial progress would be made towards settling the row over next season's fixtures, television money distribution, and

Bishop issued a statement after the meeting in London with the Epruc chairman Donald Kerr, of Harlequins Sir John Hall of Newcastle. Peter Wheeler of Leicester and Ivor Montlake of Wasps.

"The senior clubs wish to remain within the RFU and to play European and domestic by the Rugby Football Union competitions, subject to president Bill Bishop was refinement of the competitive

"The senior clubs clearly recognise the aspirations of players to play international and representative rugby and wish to facilitate this process. In return the RFU will consider the proposals of Epruc for their constitution and rules. New monies achieved from sponsorship and TV can be substantially assigned to Epruc.

 David Young, the Salford Reds prop and captain, will return to rugby union with Cardiff at the end of the current rugby league season, writes Paul Fitzpatrick.

Cardiff, who signed Jona-than Davies from Warrington last year, have agreed an un-disclosed sum with Salford for Young, who left the Welsh club to join Leeds six years ago. and played 12 times for Wales

Young, 28, gained 14 Welsh and three Lions caps in union in league. He has appeared in 153 games for Salford.

Wood work . . . Leslie Law puts in some pre-Badminton training in the Gloucestershire countryside

Law of increasing returns

Frank Keating meets a rider with an Olympic mission at Badminton this week

IE 11th-hour withdrawal of so many horses through injury - five at the last count — from the he just lets rip and rums for Badminton Horse Trials his life — full pelt, wind in which begin today offers an opportunity for less-known home-bred combinations to hog some headlines for resisting the mighty strong challenge from abroad over the next four days and perhaps forcing themselves into the frame for Olympic selection.

instance, who steers around the Gloucestershire countryside two likely lads in Cap tano, an eight-year-old pocket battleship bursting with New Flavour, whose bonny dash has captivated the oneday-event circuit this spring.
Already on the selectors'
"long list", Law and either or both of his four-footed part-ners could land on the Olymners could land on the crysi-pic shortlist by teatime on Sunday, which is, nicely, the rider's 31st birthday. It would be almost a home win, for Law rents a yard just west of

alongside the Wye near Hay and like all that ilk can talk engagingly about his horses till the cows come home. "Chalk and cheese. Capi-tano is just 18 hands, very outgoing and exuberant, a quality which can sometimes spill over in the formal, hit-your-

Gloucester. He is a Borders

countryman, brought up

At that he can be a bit too bright for his own good, too actorish; but at cross-country your hair, tremendous.

"In contrast, New Flavour is much more laid back and unbothered. More Irish, if you like. In fact I'm hoping the clamorous big-time atmo-sphere and, well, the flavours of Badminton might be to our advantage and lift him to in-The talented Leslie Law for spiration. New Flavour can usually rely on a sound per formance in the dressage and show-jumping, and although last year out in the country he was a touch too sharp for his own good on the corners and arrowheads, he seems suddenly to have put all that behind him this spring and he generally seems in Al all-round nick."

With two such different horses, was it a strain for the rider during intense competition to be jumping from one saddle and straight on to another like a Wells Fargo mailman? Law chuckles with his Borderer's hurr at the very dea. "No bother. I've always ridden a wide selection of horses. Once you know them you settle into their various diosyncrasies as soon as you're aboard. With these two you just time in instantly to their characters, their

strengths and weakness

Yesterday's walking of the

ing of the cross-country haz-ards inevitably and annually scares the hell out of even the gives impetus to his chances most experienced international event rider.

It is a country ramble to raise the hackles, as much a warning eye-opener as a narrow-eyed study of lengths and widths and strides and a nerve-tightening assessment of when to be dainty and when to be daring.
"This first look shows you

what risks can or, more cruurday. All any of us have seen till now are pictures or rough ketches of this year's layout of obstacles in Horse & Hound. We've all been dying to know what's got to be done
— and now we know all right

Olympics in July have been

thrown into disarray by the withdrawal of five of the 16

long-listed horses through injury or illness, writes John Kerr. Two members of

last year's European gold-medal team, Tina Gifford and William Fox-Pitt, as

well as Ian Stark, twice winner at Badminton, are

without a ride. Karen Dixon

has lost her main horse.

He is aware that the string of late British withdrawals

of tossing a flamboyant hard hat into the pot for Olympic selection. But he also sympathises with those who have pulled out. "In this game, talent must always be judged alongside the luck of freedom from injury. The biggest haz-ards in eventing are not the fences but the little laming injuries and niggles that horses are prone to; 100 per cent fiting programme, and that in-

evitably means physical wear This is Law's fifth Badminton. His best placing remains eighth, on Welton Apollo way

selectors to use Badmin-Dixon's Get Smart, in line string in Star Appeal.
ton as the final trial for the for a third Olympics, has a New Zealand bring a for-

virus but she still bas Too Smart. And Fox-Pitt's Cos

mopolitan II and Stark's

Mr Mackinnon have also

The trials, carrying a re

cord first prize of £24,000,

start today with the dres-

sage. No horse has won Badminton again after a four-year interval but Mary King's King William, who has done well in pre-

been scratched.

Law's blue lorry carries the smart livery and logo of his the way of sport. It is the way of the world. But the horse-

Vaughn Jefferis, former and reigning world champi-

year's Burghley winner.

Lexington, Kentucky.

back in 1989. As usual he will what we've got to do, don't sleep the five nights cramped leather, to represent Britain.

course was far more daunting than changing horses. Badminton's Wednesday unveiling of the cross-country haz. He is aware that the string that cient, airy and sumptuous stable block that adjoins the grandeur of the Duke of Beau-fort's Palladian pile. "It's a fabulous experience for the horses, like living in a palace for them. So they'll know something's up all right, realise this is the big one."

> sponsor, Fujitsu Communica-tions. The whole event, to which, in spite of the weather forecast, half middle England's green wellies will throng, is sponsored this time by Mitsubishi Motors. It is ing tally-ho and hell for

very good players". Olympic selectors thrown by five absent horses THE plans of Britain's | have foot problems. | also has a strong second

midable challenge with Mark Todd, who won a French three-day event last week, Blyth Tait and Only one of the eight, Fairclough, plays here today. The others are mostly in the US, ons respectively, and Andrew Nicholson, last where this week's prize-fund

in the Sprint event is \$1.2 million (£816,000), compared with Bruce Davidson, who last year became the first Amer-ican to win Badminton, bas pulled out after damaging a the \$112,500 here. At least their absence will give some of the hopefuls a chance to force their way into a team shoulder last weekend in that will need as many win-

Sport in brief

Rugby Union

Bath could play in Romania in next season's Heineken European Cup after yester-day's draw for the competition, which is being expanded with English and Scottish sides. The new Courage league champions are in Pool A with Edinburgh District, the third-placed Heineken League Welsh side, and the winner of a play-off between Dynamo Bucharest and the Italian league runners-up.

Soccer A goal in either half from the prolific Liverpool Youth striker Michael Owen took England to a 2-1 victory in their pool match against Turkey in the European Under-16 Championship tournament at Schrems. Austria. The 16year-old missed his club's 2-0 first-leg win in the FA Youth Cup final at West Ham on Monday to play yesterday.

Table Tennis

The former national champion Andrea Holt was given a red card when match-point down to Mihaela Steff after kicking over a barrier during yesterday's third-place playoff in the European Championships, urites Richard Jago

England were defeated 4-0 by Romania as Germany took the women's title with a 4-2 victory over Hungary. England's men were rele-

gated from the leading group for the first time since 1984 when they were beaten 4-1 by the Netherlands.

Tennis

Henman pulls out of Davis Cup

Stephen Bierley

TIM HENMAN, who this week became the British No. 1, has been forced to pull out of tomorrow's Davis Cup tie against Slovenia. recently

eturned from the Asian circuit, has been advised to take two weeks' rest. "I haven't been feeling 100 per cent for the last three weeks and it finally caught up with me. I saw the doctor and on his advice I informed David Lloyd that I would not be able to play this weekend. Naturally I

am bitterly disappointed."
His place in the four-man team will be taken by Nick Gould, currently ranked 269th in the world. Hen-man, by reaching the semi-finals of the Korean Open last week, has climbed to 54th, four places higher than the Canadian-born Greg Rusedski, Britain's

No. 2. "It's a blow when any team loses a player of Tim's calibre but we have a job to do and I am confident," said Lloyd, the Davis Cup captain. The Euro/African Zone Group Two firstround tie is being played at Newcastle's Castle Farm. with Neil Broad and Mark Petchey completing the British team.

Cricket

B&H Cup: Derbyshire v Lancashire

Jones emits no moans after darkness falls on Derbyshire

David Hopps at Chesterfield

DERBYSHIRE's new cap-tain Dean Jones took a philosophical view of the de-feat that could cost his county a place in the Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-finals, after the weather reduced events at Queen's Park to frustration and confusion.

A match that overnight had eemed in Derbyshire's grasp, with Lancashire 70 for six in 14 overs, requiring a total of 138 for victory, instead conveniently fell Lancashire's way as they won a match tormented by rain and bad light on faster scoring rate.

A 25-minute stoppage for had light caused Lancashire's target to be reduced to 121 off 44 overs. That was enough to transform a still precarious 107 for seven into a position of strength as Ian Austin and Warren Hegg won the game with a handful of lusty blows. The climax was cruel for

Derbyshire, but Jones responded by running together whatever "no whingeing" phrases came to mind. We've just got to take it on the chin," he said. "There is no use grumbling. We are sportsmen. They are the rules and we have got to play by

Lancashire's batsmen the light after exactly 25 overs — the minimum requirement for a match to become legitimate — and had retreated to the dressing rooms to a solitary cry of "cheats" from a demoralised Derbyshire

Trevor Jesty, one of the um-pires, insisted: "The 25-overs rule did not come into it. We offered it because it was bad light, that's all. We had been watching the light for the last two overs and it just got bad very quickly."

Derbyshire must win their final two group matches against Minor Counties and Warwickshire - to retain any possibility of reaching the quarter-finals; Lancashire, with three wins in their three matches, are virtually sure of progressing to the last

eight.
Dominic Cork, whose five wickets on the first day won him the Gold Award, bowled his final three overs yesterday without further success, his outswinger no longer functioning in such devastating fashion on a chill, damp

Derbyshire's only success came when Neil Fairbrother was bowled by Frank Griffith off his thigh pad. The rest was



Gifford's General Jock liminaries, could set a pre-and Midnight Blue II both cedent. The Devon rider

Third man's ... Dean Jones bids someone else chase Neil Fairbrother's open-faced deflection

possible at Cardiff, where Somerset won on better runrate after Glamorgan had advanced from 108 for two to 161 for six. The B&H Cup also relieved the threat of drought in the north as rain wiped out the matches carried over at Jesmond and Chester-le-Street; although this gave Durham an encouraging no-result result, it did for Minor Counties because Leicestershire had hatted the 25 overs needed for their better run-rate to count as a win.

Hayhurst 67no) GLAMORGAN (overnight: 108-2) A Dale c Trump b Rose B Croft c Trump b Lee lesione b Lee Total (for 6, 36 overs) .

Barwick.
Score at 15 oyers 55-2
Bourlings Caddick 10-3-42-2; Ross 8-1-33-1; Les 7-0-38-2; Ecclestons 8-0-31-0; Hayhurat 3-0-13-1, Ikepires B Dudleslon and J W Holder.

Hover Kent 413-5 dec (D P Pulton 250, D J

NO PLAY, RAIN Headingley Northamptonshire 208-8 dec ID J Roberts 105 A J Swann 98. Fisher 6-99, Yorkshire 130 (Roberts 26-5).

Europe looking for winners

David Davies at St Pierre

HE women's profes-sional scene begins this morning on the course, and in the country, where it will come to full fruttion later this year. This week it is the Welsh Open, in September it will be the Solheim Cup, and both will be settled on this course near Chepstow.

The American Express Tour consists of 20 tournaments and is worth about £3 million. a distinct improvement on three years ago when the figures were 11 and £1.4 million. It is now possible for young amateurs to envisage turning professional.

Not that it will come easily. After this week the next tour-nament in the United Kingdom is in August; in between the tour will have visited Portugal, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Denmark, France. Austria and Germany.

It is arguable that this rela-tive affluence can be traced back to three days in Scotland in 1992 when, at Dalmahoy near Edinburgh, the Europe team achieved one of the upsets of the century when they win the second playing of the Solheim Cup. The European tour had needed such

credibility.

The result also made the After the US won the first of these biennial events by 11½ to 4½ at Lake Nona, Florida, it was in danger of being seen as a perpetual walk-over, but the Dalmahoy margin, 11½ to 6½, gave the lie to that.

Two years later, though, Europe were back in trouble, losing the 1994 match at The

osing the 1994 match at The Greenbrier by 13 to 7, a result which seemed to confirm the Americans' inherent strength. The Solheim Cup appeared to be at the same stage as the Ryder Cup 20 years ago, with Europe capable of occasional upsets but not repeated

Then, at the Americans' proposal, the teams were enlarged from 10 players to 12 and the number of points available was increased from 20 to 28. That favours the US, a nation with strength in

Here yesterday Terry Coates, chief executive of the American Express Tour, said both he and Europe's captain the change. And he believed this year's activities, by Europeans on both sides of the Atlantic. would produce "12

Eight of those are Laura Davies, Annika Sorenstam, Lotte Neumann, Helen Alfredsson, Lora Fairclough, Marie-Laure de Lorenzi, Trish Johnson and Alison Nicholas, and that is a strong backbone. But if there were Europe's chances would be

DERBYSHERE: 137 (M Watern

Total (for 7, 26.3 overs).
Fall of wholeths 27, 29, 35, 41, 48, 70, Did not heat? P.J. Martin, G. Chappis.
Score at 15 overse; 73-8.
Scorelage Malcolm 10-1-38-1; C. 10-1-49-8; Defreites 3.3-0-27-0; Gri -1. Mac T & Jesty and K & Palmer,

No play, rain

SportsGuardian

CHELSEA MOUNT LAST-DITCH CAMPAIGN TO KEEP THEIR MAN

Battle rages over future of Hoddle

team and the club.

question of trying to persuade Glenn that there are exciting times ahead at this club and

we want him to be part of it.

"But the most important thing for Chelsea today was that Glenn and I spoke for the

case of him spending 10 min-utes over coffee with me and

Hoddle has been procrasti-

but I'm on my way

he can live with."

Martin Thorpe on a long day of delicate negotiations over who succeeds Terry Venables as England manager

maily accept the job of England manager today after spending all of yester-day deep in meetings and sur-rounded by speculation concerning his immediate future.
It is understood that the

Chelsea manager feels the time is right to take up the position he has long coveted, and that this call of destiny overrides any reluctance or sadness he harbours about leaving Stamford Bridge. Hoddle said yesterday:

Yes, I have been offered the job and I have been given 48 hours to think about it. Lots' of thoughts are on my mind

or thoughts are on my mind and I have got a lot of deci-sions to make — but a deci-sion hasn't been made yet."

He later added, before de-parting for two unspecified meetings: "We're hoping that things can be sorted out over the next few hours." It is known that the FA sub-com-'I have got a lot of decisions to make but a decision known that the FA sub-committee charged finding a hasn't been replacement to Terry Vena-bles, made as certain as they made vet' could that whoever they ap-proached to fill the position would say yes to the offer. and that he can put his dream of managing England on hold," said Harding. "It is a

Hoddle had spent yesterday morning locked in four hours of talks with the Chelsea vicechairman Matthew Harding who was desperately trying to persuade him to stay. But even Harding acknowledged afterwards the hard choice Hoddle had to make, "Glenn is very keen and happy at Chelsea," he said, "but the offer of the England manager's job isn't something you

can dismiss lightly."

Although Ken Bates, the pressure to persuade Hoddle to stay, the two are not the greatest of friends. Bates forthright in his public criticisms and more sympathetic to his view of how the club should be run. Hoddle, on the other hand, finds his chairman's prickly and idiosyn-

contract at Chelsea to replace the one that runs out this summer. He harbours deep reservations about the club's financial commitment to team strengthening and is unimpressed by the ongoing in-ternal power battle between Bates and Harding. LENN HODDLE is cratic character difficult to expected to for deal with. Yesterday Bates was pre-dictably barbed: "If he does decide to go for the England job I wish him all the luck in the world — because, frankly, he is going to need it."

He has been seeking assurances over these matters and following recent talks, the Chelses board is also reported to have offered him £350,000 a

rear to stay. Harding's personal plea came after Hoddle was in-vited by the FA on Monday Yesterday Bates indicated that while he wanted Hoddle to remain, his patience was running out. "We're rapidly getting to a situation where night to replace Venables and while the manager was con-sidering the offer the Chelsea we could finish up without a manager and going into the vice-chairman nipped in, put-ting a spirited case for stay-ing at Stamford Bridge to the man who has revitalised the summer looking for one. That is unacceptable and unfair to Chelsea and their fans, so I think it is make your mind up "I keep reminding Glenn that he's younger than me

time." Bates, who met Hoddle's sgent yesterday, also had a blast at the FA for approach-ing Hoddle before contacting the club. "I'm very disppointed with the FA. If they had Glenn on their shortlist they should have approached him a month or so ago so the mat-ter could have been resolved. But," he added, "anarchy

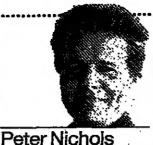
rules these days." The Chelsea chairman then knocked on the head any sug-gestion of Hoddle making Ruud Gullit England's first foreign coach. "There is no way he will be leaving Chel-sea. He is under contract until June 1997 and under no circumstances, directly or in-directly, would we release him from it. If he plays football or does any coaching at all, it will be for Chelsea next

Gullit himself said: "I was best part of four hours together and most people thought it would be just a surprised to see my name suggested as England No. 2 but I can't really talk about it at the moment. We will have to see what Glenn decides to do. club and all I want to do is to

play football."
The FA refused to comment "He was keen to speak to me, but it is important he yesterday, but Venables said of Hoddle: "He is a good choice, exceptional. He has a question of looking at every side and hoping that Glenn can come up with a decision the quality he needs, he is the man for the job."

nating over signing a new David Lacey, page 14

High season for the drug programmes



USED to love bank holidays. They ushered in sum mer, a drawing back of veils. Bank holidays, though, mean nothing any more - only that they are good days to work because the phone never rings — and sum mer sneaks up on me. I probably wouldn't even know it was there if it wasn't for my regu-lar alarm call from a TV

The sap rises among documentary makers when sum-mer is coming, the thoughts turn to things of sport, notabl drugs in sport, and they deseatch a researcher, who usually has no knowledge of drugs or sport, to find out ex-actly who's injecting what

into whom. I get the call in the formative stage of such programmes because I was once considered an expect on drug matters, although I haven't written about it properly for years. I started in the mid-Eighties when it was all an open secret and British athletes used to pop over to Portugal to buy their steroids over the counter and the deaths from liver cancer weren't being counted. For half a dozen vears I kept abreast of developments, but that was enough. Writing about sport should be edifying, writing about drugs

in sport isn't. Yet, come May each year the subject is reawakened, not with just one call this year but three: a medical friend writing a column on staroids, an old contact calling for a chat, and the TV researcher. I knew the researcher, he had come down to the house a year ago and I had lent him a few papers and books. Ostensibly be was call-ing to tell me that he still had my copy of the Dubin Enquiry report (Ben Johnson and all that). He seemed to think I was urgently in need of it back, but I persuaded him that there was only limited excitement in re-reading an 800-page

transcript. Information, though, is what drives the TV researcher, and before I could make my excuses and put down the phone he was off, seeking clarification of a story that Kerrith Brown was found positive at the Seoul Olympics

only because there was a trade-off with the IOC about another British positive, Lin ford Christie. Christie, if you remember, had minute traces of pseudoephedrine in his sample, but insufficient to be confirmed positive. I told him that story was nonsense and put down the phone. The old contact was more

interesting. Sometimes, when you are not seeking information, so much more of it comes your way. He brought the conversation on to human growth hormone and how it was currently being used. Growth hormone was one of the disas-ter areas of the early Eighties. Athletes started using it when they discovered its anabolic qualities, but the drug was obtained only by abstraction from the pituitary glands of dead people. The true horror of this was brought home when the American FDA removed all natural growth hormone from the US market ecause it had been implicated in instances of Creutzveldt-Jakob disease

The manufacture of synthetic growth hormone brought the product back into use by athletes, although it did have a number of side-effects. These included a condition called acromegaly, which involves elongation of the feet, hands, forehead and the jawbone. It was also noticed, around this time, that a number of athletes were having braces fitted to their teeth, a little unusual **for men in** their

late twenties. The psychological effect this had on opponents was considerable. Indeed, one discus thrower was reputed to have had a brace fitted simply to scare the pants off the oppo sition, although he never took anything stronger than tea.

NYWAY, even the braces have been left behind with the latest version of the drug. It is known as insulin-like growth hormone and has been synthesised to exclude all the side-effects. It is, he told me, safe, undetectable and very effective, the perfect perfor mance enhancing drug.

Only there was or lem. When everybody used steroids, it was democratic be cause everyone could afford them. Insulin-like growth hormone costs about £10,000 for

one month's supply. My doctor friend rang back later that day and asked me to tell her everything I knew about steroids, which were about to be made illegal. I drew breath. "Well," I said, "I'm getting a little behind on this Olympic handbook I'm doing. Let me give you the number of someone else."

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The Chelsea line



Matthew Harding Vice-chairman 'We want Glenn to be

part of the future at Chelsea. He has got After all, if he does he can't put Ruud Gullit in the side or Dan Petrescu - and Klinsmann up front'



Wanted man . . . Glenn Hoddle spent yesterday morning in talks with Matthew Harding, Chelsea's vice-chairman. The club have reportedly offered him £350,000 a year to stay

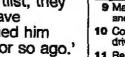
Ken Bates

a big job to finish off. It's very bad behavtake the England job they had Glenn on should have a month or so ago.



Chairman

'Anarchy rules these days. I'm very disappointed with the FA. iour on their part. If their shortlist, they approached him

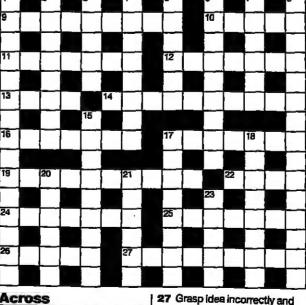




It has neither the Tarantino film's sense of post-modern moral blankness nor the super-clever intricacy of the Bryan Singer film. But it works. Derek Malcolm

Guardian Crossword No 20,642

Set by Rufus



- 9 Make changes to it again and there'll be trouble (9) 10 Composer with capacity for
- 11 Repeat treat that is organised (7) 12 Just in the saddle with girth
- adjusted (7) 13 Either way, it's high time (4) 14 Side line for the artist? (10)
- 16 Bounty is a big ship (7)
- 17 An enthusiast to get on and
- 19 Work on site can cause obstruction (10)
- 22 Quite a lot of transferable
- stock? (4)
- 24 A plant holder? (7) 25 Composer is put back in
- irons for correction (7)
- 26 After a drink Jack went back
- belittle it (9) Down

- 1 Millions may be involved in this gamble on a race (8,7)
- 2 Players' entrance at the football ground? (4,4)
- 3 Commonplace restriction on a learner (5)
- 4 I'm upset over a succession
- of wretched experiences (8) 5 What is needed is no huge
- change (6)
- 6 Upsets open containers (9) 7 Shock for king in battle (6)
- 8 Strike teacher, get
- punishment and feature in the newspaper (3,3,9)
- 15 It provides blanket coverage -for a dorm feast? (9) 17 Prosper and show off (8) 18 Cinerama developed in the

20 Criticise a mother in straw

21 Fuss about the French in Spain (6)

Solution temerrow

23 Row about South Carolina

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hat (6)

1 JON 100 150.